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29 August 1985

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INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

SURINAME, GUYANA PLAN JOINT FERRY SERVICE

FL271432 Bridgetown CANA in English 1403 GMT 27 Jul 85

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, 27 Jul, (CANA)--Plans for the establishment of a joint ferry service between Suriname and neighbouring Guyana are well underway, with the terminal sites on both sides of the Corantijn River already marked, according to a release from the National Information Service (NIS).

The NIS said the marking of the site was phase one of the project, which also includes the construction of roads.

The 15 million guilder scheme (one guilder: 55 cents U.S.) is being financed by the European Development Fund (EDF) and is expected to be completed in 3 years time.

On the Suriname side existing roads leading to the site will be resurfaced, while a new 700 metre long road will be constructed. On the Guyana side some 5 kilometres of road will have to be built. This phase of the project is to begin in January 1986 and will extend over a period of 18 months.

Phase two of the project has to do with civil engineering works, including the building of mooring facilities and the necessary construction works for the accommodation of passengers and customs authorities.

This phase runs concurrently to the third phase which involves the building of a roll-on and roll-off ferry boat.

When the project is completed, officials say the service will slash from one-and-a-half hours to 20 minutes the time it takes to make the crossing between the two South American states.

In addition to passengers it will also ferry cars between the two countries.

The project is to be coordinated by a joint Suriname/Guyana Commission.

CSO: 3200/51

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT HONORS PERUVIAN--Bogota, 18 July 85 (UPI)--President Belisario Betancur has presented the Order of Boyaca to the president-elect of Peru, Alan Garcia Perez, it was learned today. According to a communique from the presidency, the decoration was conferred Monday on Alan Garcia because he "is a prominent political figure in the Latin American community." It also added that "during his brilliant public career he has distinguished himself by his defense of the common principles of democracy and freedom, as well as by a consistent respect and friendship for Colombia, its officials and its people." Betancur also conferred the Order of San Carlos in the grade of commander on the minister counselor of the Peruvian Embassy in Columbia, Fernando Guillen Salas, for his work in the improvement and development of relations between the two countries, especially in the area of cultural and trade exchange. [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 19 Jul 85 p B-4] 8735

CSO: 3348/831

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

LESTER BIRD EXAMINES ROLE OF DEFENSE FORCE

St Johns THE WORKERS VOICE in English 26, 29 Jun 85

[26 Jun 85 p 2]

[Text]

Fellow Countrymen

It was with a sense of great pride that I accepted the invitation to be here today to offer congratulations to those men who have successfully graduated from a programme of rigorous training.

The achievement of Antiguan and Barbudans, in any field, is a source of pride and satisfaction to me, for every accomplishment by one of our people, enhances the reputation of our country and contributes to the glory of our nation. Your achievement, while less glamorous and unattended by applause, is no less important than the feats of Vivian Richards and Andy Roberts in cricket or Maurice Hope in Boxing. Your achievement is a statement to the world that, in all fields of endeavour, Antiguan and Barbudans have the capacity to be the equal of all. Your achievement is an example to others of our countrymen, in different areas of activity, that they too can rise to the top and, in the process, exalt the images of their country.

Your role, as army men, is often misunderstood in the context of developing countries such as ours. There are some who claim that we have no need of an army, but those who make this claim fail to recognise that your task, as military men, is concerned with the defence of your country from threat. They fail to see that you have pledged yourselves to the noble task of standing up for your country, even at the risk of your personal safety.

To those who would claim that you have no role, I would urge them to be mindful of our condition as a small island state with no means to defend ourselves in the face of a threat. If we are fortunate, we may never encounter such a situation, but I would suggest that we are less likely to become a target for threat because we have an army. In the absence of an army; in the absence of men, such as yourselves, who are trained to defend your country and are dedicated to doing so, I ask the question : would we not be making ourselves an easy target for aggression? I believe we would, for we no longer live in a peaceful world in the Caribbean, free of the travails of other parts of the globe.

Unpleasant elements have begun to crawl into our region. Organised crime in drug-trafficking has an army of well-armed, well-equipped and well-trained soliders operating in the Caribbean Sea, plying their iniquitous trade to the United States and using the shores of some of our countries as ports of call. The ambition and greed of those, who head these nefarious groups, know no bounds and few would stop short of siezing a country which they could control as a base for their operation, protected by sovereignty from raids and guaranteed under international law from international legal process.

As you are aware, our Government has agreed to establish a task force with the US Drug Enforcement Agency to help to eradicate drug-trafficking in the Caribbean. But a key element in our contribution to this process is the army without whose skills and training Antigua and Barbuda could mount no deterrent to the soldiers of fortune who operate illegally in our waters.

So, let no one tell you otherwise: you have a role; a role of which you can be proud for it is a role that is noble and unselfish; a role which demands of you great service to your country.

Of course, apart from those who unwittingly see no role for the army, there are elements in our society who would prefer that you did not exist. They are the ones who advocate a change in the established values of the society; they are the ones who want to change the order in our society and to press their ideological stamp upon the country. They perceive you as an obstacle in their path, they see you as an undesirable block to their own narrow political ambition. They generate misgivings in the society about the army and encourage fear of you, because they say that your role is to put down internal insurrection.

But, let us assume for a moment that part of your role would be to put down internal insurrections. What would be so odious about that? What would be so wrong about the army being employed to maintain stability in a nation in the face of internal threats to security?

The Caribbean should be very clear about this and perhaps now is the time for frank talk about the army in relation to the security of small states. It is my contention, and I believe my views are shared by many others, that external forces manipulate internal elements to create conditions of detabilisation within a small state. I have no doubt that such forces are at work in the Caribbean every day.

We have now had the experience on our doorstep in Grenada where local, internal movements were manipulated by external forces and then absorbed once power had been secured. I would venture the opinion that the national sovereignty of Grenada was saved only because of the struggle for power within the Peoples Revolutionary Government. For had that power struggle and its tragic aftermath of murder and carnage not occurred, Grenada would have been totally absorbed by external forces. I claim no special insight in making this statement; the experience of Grenada is now common knowledge.

[Text]

Therefore, in my view, where small states, such as Antigua and Barbuda and many other countries in the Caribbean, have ill-equipped and under-manned police forces, there is every justification to employ the army to assist in maintaining order and protecting the lives and well-being of people in the event of internal threats to security. After all, why should the role of the army, in small states of less than 100,000 people, be confined to external engagements? Who made that decree? I, didn't, you didn't, the people of the Caribbean have never been asked to vote on it. So where did this restriction of the army come from? It came from those who would prefer to see order in the Caribbean disintegrate and the independence of our countries pawned to a foreign broker.

We have now had the experience on our doorsteps in Grenada where local, internal movements were manipulated by external forces and then absorbed once power had been secured. I would venture the opinion that the national sovereignty of Grenada was saved only because of the struggle for power within the Peoples Revolutionary Government. For had that power struggle and its tragic aftermath of murder and carnage not occurred, Grenada would have been totally absorbed by external forces. I claim no special insight in making this statement; the experience of Grenada is now common knowledge.

As you are aware, countries in the Eastern Caribbean have been working out the mechanics of a Regional Defence Force for some time. My own view of such a Defence Force is that it should include all CARICOM countries, for it is only through the pooling of our resources that we will have a force sufficiently well-manned and well-equipped to enable the Caribbean to protect its own territories free from dependence on external sources.

But, I suspect that a Regional Defence Force, which includes all CARICOM countries, will not be a reality in the near future. In the meantime, each of our countries will have to establish such national forces as our limited resources permit.

However, it is not too soon for us to place a CARICOM-wide Regional Defence Force on the agenda of regional discussion and I would suggest that at their meeting in Bridgetown in July, CARICOM Heads of Government could usefully begin to explore the possibilities of such a force. We have a body of knowledge about the security of small states on which to draw. A study mandated by Commonwealth Heads of Government should be ready for presentation in October at the Nassau summit of Commonwealth Heads, but Caribbean Governments also now have a sufficient appreciation of our security needs to enable us to begin to devise a scheme in which we all can share.

Some of you, who have graduated with success from your recent training programme, can contribute to the concept and detail of the regional scheme for you have demonstrated an understanding of the problem and a capacity to create solutions.

Fellow Countrymen, in many ways you are pioneers in your own country and in the Caribbean. You are the children of national consciousness and the adults of independence; you are the custodians of the nation's sovereignty and defenders of its values.

On your shoulders rests a great responsibility to make the army an institution which people admire. Yours is the task to make the soldier's uniform a symbol of pride. I feel secure that you will prove as equal to this challenge as you were to graduating from your training with distinction.

The soldier, in many countries of the world, is more than a man carrying a gun. He is a nation builder, a citizen who contributes skills and talent to development by participating in many non-military activities. Our army must seek a similar path; our soldiers must show a similar desire. For this nation needs you to help defend it, but equally we need you to help build it.

I call on you now, as young men in a young country, to establish a fine tradition for the Antigua and Barbuda Defence Force in the annals of our history; let the army be respected in our society and let our people look upon you, not with suspicion, but with esteem. You have a unique opportunity to create something that can live for ever with distinction. Show our people and the people of the world that you can do it.

I congratulate you, one and all, on your successful graduation.

THANK YOU

CSO: 3298/930

29 August 1985

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

ATLU ORGAN TAKES ISSUE WITH RICKEY SINGH REMARKS

St Johns THE WORKERS VOICE in English 29 Jun 85 p 1

[Text]

Communist writer Ricky Singh, writing in the leftist newspaper Caribbean Contact attempted to take the Government of Antigua and Barbuda to task because the Immigration Department placed some of his friends with reversed collars back on their plane, and returned them to the U.S.A. after they disoed instructions from the Department that they should not come to Antigua until they received permission to do so.

Singh attempted to tell his readers that this action was taken to cover up the economic mess in which Antigua finds itself. He went on to mention the closing of many factories and the West Indies Oil Company. He said also that Antigua and Barbuda had an unemployment rate of 23 to 30 % out of a work force of 26,000 persons.

We would like to inform Singh that Antigua's economic growth continues to surpass and lead all Caricom countries including his native Guyana. The Government and people of Antigua and Barbuda can always hold their heads high and be proud of their achievements.

They continue to lead not follow. Even if your inaccurate figures concerning our unemployment were correct it would still put Antigua and Barbuda in a better position than all our neighbours including your native Guyana, where the unemployment figures are well over 50%.

Mr. Singh, what we would like you to do for us, is to recall from Antigua and Barbuda all your Guyanese friends who have sought refuge in this little paradise and

that alone would reduce the unemployment rate which you have given us by at least 50%.

Again Mr. Singh we know that you are unwanted in all Caribbean countries because of your extreme leftist leanings and your passion for falsely portraying democratic Governments as being repressive. We sympathise with you and fellows like you, because since your model society, Bishop's Grenada destroyed itself, you have nothing left, so you must keep picking on freely elected Governments which operate in the interest of their people.

Ricky, we regard our sovereignty as sacred, so advise your leftist missionaries to observe this next time they ask to come to Antigua and Barbuda,

CSO: 3298/930

BAHAMAS

FNM CLARIFIES STAND ON COMMONWEALTH SUMMIT 'BOYCOTT'

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 22 Jul 85 pp 1, 13

[Text]

THE FREE National Movement, in a press statement issued Friday, emphasized that the Opposition never stated that they intended to boycott the Heads of Government Conference as contended by Sir Lynden.

At a press conference on April 25, the Opposition had stated:

"The Free National Movement, the Official Opposition in the Bahamas, has decided to boycott all social and public events in connection with the Commonwealth Heads of Government conference to be held here in October."

The Opposition has taken issue with remarks made by Prime Minister Pindling at a PLP party meeting in the Holy Cross Constituency Wednesday. The Prime Minister attacked what he called a "fallacy going around town that Kendal Isaacs and the FNM are going to boycott the Heads of Government Conference."

The Prime Minister went on to say that the event scheduled to be held here in October was a Heads of Government conference, not a Leaders of the Opposition Conference, and therefore Mr Isaacs could not boycott what he was not invited to attend.

"Sir Lynden was indulging here in totally dishonest political propaganda designed to prop up the morale of his die-hard supporters and to fool members of the public if he could," the FNM said.

"The truth is, of course, that at no time did Mr Isaacs or the FNM say or give the impression that the Leader of the Opposition was meant to participate in the Conference."

The FNM said that "no honest and intelligent person" could possibly interpret what it had to say about boycotting all social and public events connected to the conference "to mean what the Prime Minister is trying to read into it. His supporters chuckled at the intended ridiculing of Mr Isaacs and the FNM, but the laugh was really on them for swallowing what Sir Lynden said."

"Conferences such as the one to be held in October are always accompanied by social events outside the actual Conference sessions. Sir Lynden knows this quite well. We have no doubt there will be such events to which members of the community who are not delegates will nevertheless be invited to attend."

The FNM pointed out that an example of this was the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association's Conference in Nassau when persons from various sectors of the community were invited to a reception at Government House. Some members of Parliament, who were not delegates were asked to entertain some of the visiting parliamentarians.

"If no social or public events are to be held in connection with the October conference, then it will be most unusual," the FNM stated. "However, it would make no difference to the Leader and other Parliamentary members. And if there are, the Prime Minister can save the money and effort it would take to invite FNM parliamentarians."

"The FNM expects no better out of Sir Lynden when he is rattled and on the run as he is now. He will twist and turn, get low and crack jokes but his performances will be at best third grade television entertainment. It will not extricate him and his corrupt Government from the hopeless mess they are in, and it will not save the country from the incredible disaster of Pindling and the PLP," the FNM said.

CSO: 3298/923

BAHAMAS

'POLITICAL OBSERVER' ASSESSES PLP HINT ABOUT ELECTION

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 18 Jul 85 p 1

[Article by Athena Damianos]

[Text]

HAS external pressure been brought to bear on Prime Minister Lynden Pindling in connection with the October Heads of Government Conference?

This was the question raised today by a political observer following Monday's hint by PLP chairman Sean McWeeney that an early election is in the wind.

Mr McWeeney spent his weekend in seclusion at Lyford Cay preparing for Monday's news conference.

The political observer said the public ought to be very wary of Mr McWeeney's election hint. He said it was totally uncharacteristic of Sir Lynden to tip the Opposition off about an election.

He felt that either Sir Lynden is under external pressure, or he is using the election "ploy" as a smokescreen to divert attention from the Commission of Inquiry report and mounting criticism from civic and religious leaders.

The election hint fuelled immediate speculation that Sir Lynden might go into his party's convention from the Commonwealth Conference in a "blaze of glory" to announce general elections.

"Has Margaret Thatcher given a condition for her participation at the conference?" the observer asked.

Sir Lynden recently met with Mrs Thatcher in London in connection with the conference. Several Cabinet Ministers have also been busily travelling to Commonwealth countries in connection with the Conference.

"If not, it is more than likely that Sean's statement was a decoy to distract the people from the main issues. It could be that this whole thing is nothing but a smokescreen to take the heat off of him (Pindling)," the observer said.

"It would be highly and foolhardily uncharacteristic of the Prime Minister to announce his intention to hold an election. It would be like a robber telling you he is going to break into your house at 2 am."

The political observer said that it would not be to Sir Lynden's advantage to call an early election. Firstly, it would paralyse the economy he is trying so hard to rejuvenate. The observer also said that the Prime Minister, who is faced with growing opposition from within his own party, would have to put his house in order before he could confidently go into an election.

If the election talk is only a decoy, then the political observer said that apart from the Budget Debate, there will probably be no session of the House until February.

A heavy agenda of controversial issues, including the clandestine sale of the Paradise Island Bridge from which Sir Lynden indirectly received \$334,000, is pending.

The political observer said it could well be that Sir Lynden is only buying time and testing the waters.

"The campaign that the PLP is about to embark might not be an election campaign. It might only be a campaign to spruce up his image. But, he has a problem because his house is divided," the political observer said.

He said this is why Sir Lynden is only arranging to speak at mini-rallies rather than at general political meetings.

"In that way, he is able to isolate the dissident group," he said.

He said that Sir Lynden will deal with the dissident group in his own time.

"The only way he will call an election before 1987 is if he is being pressured externally. He wants to ride out and buffer the crisis and then hope that the people will forget. That is his main strategy. That's why he was talking about 'election my foot,'" the political observer said.

"If he is not being pressured from outside, it can only be looked upon as a smokescreen to divert attention from the main issues."

Mr McWeeney said Monday that there will be massive public works in the Family Islands in the next six to nine months.

He also said that Sir Lynden, who is Minister of Finance, will see that a "very, very substantial allocation is going to be made, not only to the Police and Defence Force, but in respect to the war on drugs" in the 1986 Budget.

CSO: 3298/923

BAHAMAS

PINDLING SUGGESTS TOPICS FOR PEOPLE'S PARLIAMENT

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 18 Jul 85 pp 1, 4

[Article by Athena Damianos]

[Text]

PRIME Minister Lynden Pindling last night said that the matter of the Communication and Public Officers Union's misappropriated funds should be one of the items on the agenda of the People's Parliament.

Sir Lynden was referring to the Trade Union Congress forum at the Southern Recreation Grounds, which to date has not been very successful.

He said that the FNM and their 1982 election campaign public relations firm, Project Masters, should also be an item on the agenda.

Sir Lynden told the meeting at the Holy Cross Parish Hall, attended by MP Charles Carter, that the misappropriation of a substantial amount of money from the BCPOU should be one of the first issues for discussion at the People's Parliament.

Two BCPOU officers resigned in January after an investigation into the union's financial affairs. President Keith Archer was re-elected by an overwhelming majority at the union's general election in March.

"I have reason to believe that in 1982 over \$9,000 of BCPOU funds were misappropriated. Let the People's Parliament check that!" Sir Lynden said.

"I have reason to believe that in 1983, over \$68,000 of the people's money in the BCPOU was misappropriated. Let the People's Parliament check that!"

"I have reason to believe that in 1984, over \$75,000 of the people's money in the BCPOU was misappropriated. And so, over \$154,000 of the people's money in the BCPOU was misappropriated ..." Sir Lynden said.

"Let Mr Keith Archer, who is anxious to be in some kind of a Parliament... That's a nice item, man. Call a People's Parliament for all the BCPOU membership and put that on the agenda... Tell them I say put it on the agenda."

Sir Lynden also spoke about Opposition leader Kendal Isaacs' application against the Public Disclosure Commission in relation to the Prime Minister's disclosures. The application was dismissed by the Chief Justice with costs.

"In the eyes of Mr Isaacs, the matter is no longer one of principle. All of a sudden it's taking Kendal Isaacs one long time to decide whether he is going to appeal," Sir Lynden said.

"If it were me, I would have been able to say next day I am appealing it, if it were a matter of principle."

Sir Lynden said there is a fallacy going around town that Mr Isaacs and the FNM are going to boycott the October Commonwealth Conference.

"It can't happen and I'll tell you why it can't happen. It is not the leader of the Opposition conference. It is a Heads of Government conference. My brothers and sisters, it is not possible for people to boycott something you never were going to be to. Why try to pretend? It's a Heads of Government conference and Kendal Isaacs isn't a head of government," Sir Lynden said.

The FNM announced earlier in the year that it would boycott all public and social events held in connection with the conference.

BAHAMAS

FNM'S ISAACS DEPICTS POLITICAL, OTHER CHOICES FOR NATION

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 19 Jul 85 p 1

[Article by Marcia Bethell]

[Text]

GIVING AN over view of the social ills plaguing the Bahamas today, Opposition Leader Kendal Isaacs, addressing the annual Church of God Convention last night, said that the Bahamas is now faced with a choice between life and death, blessing and cursings and the choice must be made for the nation and the children.

"At this time it appears that the Bahamas is caught up in a maelstrom of evil influences. What used to be one of the most tranquil countries in the world is now a hot-bed of crime and corruption of all kinds. The church and the society in general face the greatest challenges in our history," Mr Isaacs told the Convention.

He pointed out that rape is an every-day occurrence in the Bahamas. The Bahamas is rated among nations with the highest crime rate. He said that drug abuse, particularly among young people, continues unabated and has reached epidemic proportions.

"A frightening aspect of this nefarious business is that there

are obviously many Bahamians who are prepared to sell their brothers and sisters into the slavery of drugs for the sake of their own greed for money," Mr Isaacs said.

"Heaven and earth have been called to witness that we do have a choice and the choice for use as individuals and as a nation is a matter of life and death, blessings and cursings," the Opposition Leader said. "It is a choice not only for ourselves, but for our nation, for our children, that we and our seed may live in peace and happiness."

Mr Isaacs stressed that the survival and well-being of the nation's future generations hangs in the balance.

"The choices we, as a nation, make today will most certainly determine whether the future will be happy with many blessings or miserable with many cursings," he said.

Mr Isaacs told the Convention that he knows they have been thinking and praying about these social ills and that when they are finished they will return to the vineyard with a renewed commitment.

"You will no doubt remind our young people who have gone astray that it is a noble thing when one is strong to be gentle and kind to others. You will dare to speak out against the fashionable behaviour of the day and declare that macho chest-thumping should be left with the animals of the jungle, not to be emulated by those who have been made in the image and likeness of God.

"You will no doubt speak out courageously against the evils in our society, against crime, against drug abuse, against wickedness in high places. You will turn your words into action by helping in the struggle against these evils and demonstrate before heaven and earth that we are a people who have made the right choice.

"You will no doubt praise those men and women who have made the choice to work hard for an honest living - however humble - and you will not give honour to those who accumulate riches by dishonest means," Mr Isaacs said.

CSO: 3298/923

BAHAMAS

TEACHERS UNION STATEMENT DISPUTES MINISTRY POSITION

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 19 Jul 85 pp 1, 4

[Text]

THE Bahamas Union of Teachers today condemned "in the strongest terms" what it felt was an insinuation by Minister of Education Paul Adderley that teachers are performing ineffectively.

The BUT made its remarks in response to the "Adderley law" which the Minister outlined Monday.

Mr Adderley said that he did not wish to see any student, unless there are "patently exceptional mitigating circumstances," leave a primary school who is unable to read and comprehend the English language and communicate effectively and intelligently.

Said the BUT in its stinging press statement:

The Bahamas Union of Teachers condemns in the strongest terms and takes particular exception to Minister Adderley's insinuation that primary school teachers and indeed teachers everywhere are performing ineffectively.

It is clear, to us in the B.U.T. that Minister Adderley is simply following the steps of other Ministers of Education, who, on an annual basis use the Teachers Conference as a forum to proclaim autocratic laws, edicts, and decrees, that have the total effect of producing a good sound to the Bahamian public.

The B.U.T. must remind Minister Adderley that the Bahamian public will not be fooled again by Ministers of Education who make yearly promises about quality and excellence in education, however, they continue to duck the issue of how and when these promises will be fulfilled.

The B.U.T. must also remind Minister Adderley, that the record will show that it has always been the view of the B.U.T. that the nation's poor children, be afforded the opportunity to read, write and compute. However, it is indeed, apparent that the government is not quite ready to fully address this issue with a view towards solving the problems that face the nation's children. The B.U.T. intends that if they were serious about equality and quality in education, then the children at Salina Point, Acklins would have, at least, attended school in 1985, but they have not; the school was never opened.

The B.U.T. is curious, and indeed, we are probably doubtful, that the proposed new law - 'Adderley's Law' - is synonymous to the Government's Laws for education in the Bahamas. It is our belief that if Minister Adderley is serious, then the entire government ought to be serious about quality education. Minister Adderley wants no excuses, and

he ought to know by now that the B.U.T. will accept no excuses from him, or any other Minister of Education, when schools are not repaired and materials are not available to students and teachers.

Towards this end, it is therefore, hopeful, that school and adequate classroom space would be available to the students in September. Toilets, lighting, and other hazardous fixtures would no longer plague the school, and furthermore, teachers will for the first time in many years look forward to decent working conditions and adequate pay increases; as Minister Adderley, and the entire government will seek to pay more, for that which they claim to value most, if indeed they do value quality education.

The B.U.T. must warn Minister Adderley about making speeches and yearly proclamations without seeking to address the real issues in education.

It is indeed clear to us that misinformation and confusion is paramount in the Ministry of Education, and probably, the Minister is only reflecting the confusion that exists at that high level in the Ministry. The Bahamian public, like us in the B.U.T., must again ask the Minister to explain his new, or this new government policy. The B.U.T., on behalf of the nation, calls on the government to establish firm policies in education, as opposed to posi-

tions and policies that change as often as Ministers do.

In 1982 the B.U.T. warned the then Minister of Education of the serious impact and implication of his proposed abolition of social promotion. We were careful to point out the fact that students will not and should not be promoted automatically, but rather according to their achievement.

We further warned the Ministry and inquired about classroom space, materials and the necessary teaching manpower that would be necessary if this grand plan were to be a reality.

As usual, there was no forward planning on the part of the Ministry, as predicted, the new proposed law, despite its good sound, were never pushed forward. Indeed, it was sad to learn later, that senior officials within the Ministry of Education only heard of the plan when it was told to teachers at the Conference.

We inquired, in 1982, 1984 and again in 1985 about the materials needed for the real implementation of the curriculum. Again, as usual, no materials are available; teachers are again called upon to cope rather than control. Yet, the Minister wants no excuses, despite the fact that he must again go to the public and tell them that curriculum for certain subject areas are still not available. He must again explain to the public why these things are not in place at a time when he proposes, and proclaims

excellence in the education system.

The B.U.T. must, therefore, conclude that Minister Adderley is indeed no different from other former Ministers of Education ... proclaiming excellence but operating on spite, pettiness and victimization.

The Minister ought to know by now that the massive transfers from schools that were quite visible last year could only mean victimization towards teachers who called for quality materials to produce excellence. The Minister will no doubt give an excuse for movements of teachers from Stephen Dillet, Uriah McPhee, D W Davis and William Gordon. However, the Minister wants no excuses, therefore, when asked to justify these movements, he will no doubt give no excuses.

The B.U.T. was proud to hear the Minister of Education and Attorney General address the issues of academic success and moral excellence.

The B.U.T. in keeping with its unblemished tradition, will continue to work for the people of this country and indeed, all of the nation's children. We will not stop until justice is done to children everywhere in the Bahamas.

Finally, we say to Minister Adderley, if you are serious, we will know by September; if not, 'Adderley Law' as usual will only have the effect of a loud sound, without impact or direction.

BAHAMAS

BRIEFS

COMMONWEALTH SUMMIT ATTENDEES--Nassau, Aug 1--Twenty-five of the 49 heads of government have so far confirmed their attendance at the Commonwealth Summit here in October, a top official said. Indications are that all heads of government from all Commonwealth regions as far as the Pacific are looking forward, very much, to the Nassau meeting, said Hugh Craft, director of International Affairs for the Commonwealth Secretariat in London. Craft said that among the heads expected are Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Britain's Margaret Thatcher. He said that items on the conference agenda will fall under three categories--matters relating to political development, international economic development and Commonwealth functional corporations. According to Craft, one topic expected to be discussed is the question of security of states. In the wake of developments in Grenada, the Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference asked the secretary general to undertake a special study on the needs of small states, with special reference to their security problems, Craft said. This is expected to be a focal point of discussion on the agenda, he added. U.S. troops invaded Grenada in October 1983 to remove a Marxist military government that took power in a violent coup. [Text] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1719 GMT 1 Aug 85 FL]

CSO: 3298/923

BOLIVIA

LA PAZ COMMITTEE APPROVES AIRPORT EXPANSION PROJECT

La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 12 Jul 85 p 7

[Text] On 9 Jul architect Luis Carlos Alcazar-Valle presented to the La Paz Committee a project for the enlargement of our city's airport. After the exposition the committee gave its full approval and support for this project, the implementation of which is so necessary for our city.

This project was prepared by architects Luis Carlos Alcazar-Valle and Javier Leguia for presentation to the University of San Andres in the first months of 1984. It is the fruit of thorough research that includes painstaking and detailed statistical tables with realistic projections. It was aided by an advisory group of experts in various areas, including personnel from private banks, the Central Bank of Bolivia, the Ministry of Labor, national and foreign airlines, as well as several engineers and architects of outstanding experience.

The project envisages the justification for an immediate enlargement of the airport, leaving for the long term the implementation of new infrastructure. It thus demonstrates the possibility of improving El Alto airport and placing it on the same level as the best airports of Latin America.

The project includes the following works:

--Remodeling the present passenger terminal for different use, converting it into an administrative cargo center. Surface 7,086 square meters.

--Construction of an international air cargo building. Surface 13,563.75 square meters.

--Construction of a national air cargo building. Surface 30,944 square meters.

--Construction of a passenger terminal building. Surface 45,077.07 square meters.

--Enlargement of present platform.

--Creation of a new platform for the passenger terminal adjacent to the present one.

--Creation of a parallel road for vehicles and exit roads.

--A 360-meter extension of the present runway in order to facilitate movement of high tonnage planes.

--Creation of waiting rooms at both entrances.

--A heliport.

--Parking for the passenger and cargo terminals.

--Construction of a heating and energy center.

--Construction of a new control tower.

--Creation of a "green curtain" to avoid crosswinds on the runway and contribute to lowering urban noise pollution.

All this at a cost of about \$33 million, which is not even comparable to the \$137 million paid out for the Viru-Viru airport, which demonstrates that, in all justice, the people of La Paz deserve a new airport so that our city may be on the same level as the capital cities of the Americas.

For this objective to become a reality all these play an important part: city and provincial organizations, authorities with sensitivity and a sense of justice, and every citizen of La Paz who is proud of being one.

12856

CSO: 3348/835

BOLIVIA

MUTUN MINING PRODUCTION TO MEET COMMITMENT TO REGION

La Paz HOY in Spanish 11 Jul 85 p 4

[Text] A Brazilian company performed the quality control on iron concentrate from Mutun for export to Argentina.

The company is the Sociedad General de Inspeccion (SGS) engaged by an agreement between Fabricaciones Militares of Argentina, which is buying the product, and the Empresa Siderurgica of Bolivia (SIDERSA), which is selling it.

Mutun

This information was provided by the general manager of SIDERSA, Julio Fuentes, who recently visited Mutun in order to inform himself on mining operations being carried out there.

On this occasion a shipment of 10,000 metric tons of iron concentrate for export to Argentina was inspected. This shipment was requested by Fabricaciones Militares some time ago but the material could not be shipped from Puerto Brass, where it was stored. There was a long delay in the official preparation of documents for bank credits. It is considered that all this has been finally resolved. At the same time, the barges did not arrive either to transport the concentrate, which also had to be subjected to quality control such as the inspection recently made.

Export

Reiterating statements previously made, Fuentes also said that up to December of this year SIDERSA will be able to produce 50-70,000 additional tons of iron in Mutun.

The same company, Fabricaciones Militares, called for bids some months ago and awarded the sale of 100,000 tons, in equal parts, to Brazil and Bolivia. It is not yet known if this transaction has been definitely approved so that the production of the quantity indicated may have that goal for export up to December.

In any event, Fuentes said that mining operations are being carried out normally and that commitments entered into will be carried out.

12856
CSO: 3348/835

BOLIVIA

BRIEFS

IRON EXPORT CONTRACT ANNOUNCED--The final touches are being put on the contract for the export of 1 million tons of iron from Mutun to the Republic of Panama. According to information provided by Julio Fuentes, the general manager of the Bolivian Steel Enterprise (SIDERSA), the draft contract is in the hands of the enterprise in order for some amendments to be made. About 15 days ago the document was in Panama being studied by "Allows," the company interested in buying the million tons of iron. It is probable that before formalizing the agreement it suggested the amendments alluded to, whose inclusion is now being considered in order to have the bill of sale signed. As was reported earlier, the million tons will be exported over 2 years once the agreement is signed. To promote the equipping of the Mutun mine with the necessary infrastructure and equipment, it was originally agreed with Allows that once the agreement was officially signed, it would advance SIDERSA the sum of \$1 million. With this financing, equipment of Mutun will be improved, particularly with regard to heavy machinery (bulldozers, tractors and others) for the construction of access roads from the mill to Puerto Brass. It will also be necessary to purchase a fleet of heavy motor vehicles to transport the material from the mill to Puerto Brass, about 20 kilometers away. This offer is still outstanding and there are even some firms offering this equipment, all that remains for it to be carried out being the signature of the sales contract mentioned previously. [Text] [La Paz HOY in Spanish 12 Jul 85 p 9] 12856

CSO: 3348/835

CHILE

CIVIC FRONT PROPOSED AS PLURALISTIC BUT CONCERTED OPPOSITION

Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 5 Jul 85 p C-3

[Text] Socialist Ricardo Lagos said yesterday that the concept of a "Civic Front" "without exclusions" does not make him "an advocate for the communists." "It simply means that the problems of the country require the political and social agreement of the great civic majority, not only to overcome the current situation, but to confront a crisis that will last longer than the current regime."

The leader revealed: "We have not demanded that the nationals or the unionists of Allamand, a priori, abandon their positions on the 1980 Constitution--that still seems illegitimate to us. Neither do we want to make the communists abandon, a priori, their positions on the strategy they have taken toward the government."

He said that the logic on which the Civic Front was based can be understood by studying the strategies observed now in Chilean politics. On the right, the organized groups feels that democracy should be achieved through negotiation based on the 1980 Constitution. The left, led by communism, states that this democracy will be achieved through "all forms of struggle." Meanwhile, in the center, the Alliance has insisted on peaceful social mobilization leading to a subsequent agreement with the FFAA [Armed Forces].

He added that those strategies have become exclusive. Therefore, to insist upon imposing "the particular truth" of any of them on the rest of the political participants only keeps the current situation at a standstill.

Lagos said: "Therefore, when the Alliance proposed the formation of the Civic Front, it defined it as an entity of 'agreement,' not a 'political agreement.' 'The other collectives and social organizations' are invited to 'establish a united platform of peaceful democratic mobilization that is capable of convoking broad national sectors around a defined, commonly agreed upon strategy.'"

In answer to a question, Lagos indicated: "Although it is true that the communists maintain their position of using 'all the forms of struggle' to oppose the government and the Alliance calls for peaceful democratic mobilization, it is very different to exclude them, a priori, leaving them free of any commitment to a future government." After sitting down with all social and politi-

cal participants in the country, "they themselves can leave if they do not want to accept a defined, commonly agreed upon strategy." In this case, he explained, their isolation would be caused by their own decision.

He added: "It is disillusioning that the intransigent positions of leaders of minority opposition sectors on both sides of the political spectrum, keep a large civic majority at a standstill."

He said that his statements on the Civic Front "respond to the obvious fact that there is an extraordinarily broad gamut of opposition that wants unity, to solve not only the current problems, but also those that will be inherited in the future. If a majority consensus does not exist for that objective, those who stay outside will be precisely the ones who tomorrow will say 'your 15 percent of readjustment plus my 200 percent.'"

Lagos indicated: "In that context, it is necessary to understand that the Civic Front is a place for defined agreement on aspects on which the different ideologies do agree, leaving aside those principles on which there are obvious disagreements." He said that the objective is to create a "minimum political scenario" in which positions can be expressed. Therefore, "democratic coexistence--which we desire for the country--based on the very organizations and trends that are fighting for it can be designed."

7717

CSO: 3348/801

CHILE

COMPLETION OF SOUTHERN HIGHWAY PLANNED FOR 1989

Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 8 Jul 85 pC-2

[Test] Coihaique--SEREMI [Regional Ministerial Secretariat of Public Works] of Region 11 reported that the Southern Highway has been open since 1982 from Chaiten to Coihaique with a feeder road and other segments already added.

Completion of this highway is planned for 1989 when it will reach Cochrane and end at the intersecting roads that go from the main highway toward the mountains or the coast. In this way it will connect isolated places and develop new towns. Two of these have been founded so far: Villa Santa Lucia (200 inhabitants) and Villa Amengual.

The intersecting roads that should be finished before 1989 are: La Junta-Lago Verde and Frontera; Cisne Medio, Tapera (site of the Santa Teresa mine which belongs to the El Toqui mining company) and Frontera; and Maiten-Chile Chico.

Tunnel and Bridges

Also the Coihaique-Chaiten sector will be finished, the Coihaique-Puerto Aisen-Puerto Chacabuco road will be paved and the tunnel in the Farellon sector will be completed.

The first work on this tunnel is already being done by the Fe Grande enterprise. It will be 230 meters long, 8.5 meters wide and 6 meters high. According to the contract, it would be available for public use by January 1986.

As to the road between Puerto Chacabuco and Malmaceda (location of the main airport for Region 11), a flexible solution has been adopted. This means a surface treated with asphalt over a crushed gravel base.

Also basic engineering studies are in progress to build bridges over the Palena, Yelcho and Rosselot rivers that now have to be crossed by raft.

A few days ago, it was impossible to use those rafts because the rivers rose.

SEREMI said: "There is no definite financing at this time for constructing the bridges. They will be included in the second stage of the existing program with the IDB [Inter-American Development Bank]."

The large number of available workers has been taken into consideration in planning these projects. It is estimated that the number of jobs generated will surpass the number of available workers in the region. Workers will have to migrate from other sections of the country, which will aid in the prompt colonization of these lands.

7717

CSO: 3348/801

CHILE

AGRICULTURAL, FORESTRY EXPORTS RECAPITULATED

Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 8 Jul 85 Supplement p 5

[Text] Between 1975 and 1984, forestry, agricultural and livestock exports rose from \$261.6 million to \$821.2 million--that is, 214 percent. During that same period, shipments of primary products went up 370 percent while shipments of industrial products rose 145 percent. This translated into increased participation by the former in total exports from the sector. It rose from 30.6 percent in 1975 to 45.8 percent in 1984.

The value of the primary products exported grew steadily during this period, except in 1983 when it went down 10 percent compared to 1982. The more important sector is agriculture with a contribution of 74.5 percent in forestry, agricultural and livestock primary exports in 1975 and 91.8 percent in 1984. It went from 22.8 percent to 42.1 percent in total shipments from the sector.

The behavior of the agricultural sector is mainly due to exports of fresh fruit. They increased from \$37.8 million in 1975 to \$293.6 million in 1984, an increase of 677 percent, and a growing contribution to forestry, agricultural and livestock primary exports and total exports. Its share in primary exports was 47.2 percent in 1975 and 78 percent in 1984. In total exports, it was 14.4 percent and 35.8 percent, respectively. It should also be pointed out that in the last 3 years, fresh fruit has been the main export in the sector analyzed.

In industrial products, a rising trend can be seen in the exported value until 1980. This fell in the next 3 years to again rise in 1984. This decline was mainly due to the drop, in terms of dollars, of pine lumber and cellulose which are the most important items in this group.

Considering the total amount in dollars of shipments, pine lumber and cellulose in 1984 represent 66 percent of the forestry, agricultural and livestock industrial exports. This percentage was 43.7 percent in 1975 and reached 70.5 percent in 1980. If it is analyzed from the perspective of total exports from the sector, the contribution of these products was 30.4 percent in 1975 and 35.8 percent in 1984. However, they had a participation of 50.2 percent in 1980.

7717
CSO: 3348/801

CHILE

IRRIGATION PROJECTS GENERATE JOBS

Santiago TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 1 Jul 85 p 11

[Text] "The National Secretariat of Employment, through the studies that it has been making about the different sectors and their impact on employment, has been able to determine that the irrigation sector is very manpower intensive," according to Hernan Cortes, chief of the Studies Department of the National Secretariat of Employment.

He added: "That is why the decisions that have been made assign great importance to the allocation of resources to this type of project."

He said that the challenge was being confronted on two levels. "We have granted immediate attention to the problem of unemployment through development and implementation of 12 small irrigation projects in Regions IV, V, VII and VIII."

He continued: "As to the long-term problem of unemployment, the secretariat has analyzed a bill that the Chilean Confederation of Irrigators presented concerning the Irrigation Development Law. This organization has supported implementation of that text that is now in legislative process in the Government Junta."

Benefits for the Country

The representative of the National Secretariat of Employment explained: "Given the existence of these levels of unemployment, the most important benefit of these irrigation projects is the generation of autonomous employment which is permanent employment. This employment, in turn, generates greater economic activity."

Hernan Cortes noted: "These small irrigation projects make it possible to use a number of hectares that are dry land today. In the future, they will become irrigated hectares which obviously makes it possible to increase exports. Consequently, that generates more currency for the country."

Irrigation Bill

The irrigation bill was presented by the Chilean Confederation of Irrigators and the National Agricultural Association with the support of the Production and Trade Confederation.

It proposes that the state subsidize up to 70 percent of the costs of small irrigation projects, estimating that an investment of \$50 million in this sector would generate about 40,000 permanent direct and indirect jobs. This would make the unemployment rate go down more than 1 percent.

7717

CSO: 3348/801

CHILE

BRIEFS

INCREASED COAL USE PREDICTED--Due to the development of the SING [Interconnected System of the Norte Grande], the national consumption of coal should show spectacular growth by 1990, according to a special report by the magazine MINERIA CHILENA. It is estimated that coal consumption will increase to 3 million tons by that year, twice the confirmed demand in 1983, according to the publication. This goal, according to the CNE [National Energy Commission], would be achieved with only "a few marginal investments" by ENACAR [National Coal Enterprise] which would become the fulcrum for the supply of coal. It indicated that this state enterprise would supply between 1.7 million and 1.8 million tons of the total planned demand for 1990 compared to 1.2 million tons in 1984. According to the report, the electrical interconnection of the Norte Grande between Arica and Antofagasta with all the intermediate cities includes the eventual installation of several medium and large thermoelectric powerplants, all using coal. In the short and medium term, the SING will be based on the Tocopilla powerplant. Therefore, "it was necessary to have a local agreement between CODELCO [Copper Corporation] and ENDESA [National Electric Power, Inc.]." CODELCO and CHILECTRA [Chilean Electric Company, Ltd.] will always be the largest consumers. CHILECTRA now has an installed power of 360 MW. Tocopilla has 155 MW today but this will increase to 280 MW in 1987 and to 680 MW in 1990. [Text] [Santiago TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 3 Jul 85 p 11] 7717

CSO: 3348/801

CUBA

DATA ON SHIP UNLOADING, UNDELIVERED INVENTORY FOR JUNE

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 20 Jun 85 p 1

[Article by Emilio del Barrio Menendez]

[Text] Unloading in the last 18 days in the National Port System can not only be considered a satisfactory response to the productive demands of June but also makes it possible to predict a very high tonnage unloaded from ship holds by the end of the month.

Between 1 and 18 June, 454,154 tons were accumulated. This means a good daily rate of 25,231 tons. There is good progress in import operations as well as exports. It is hoped that the month will end with a 10-percent overfulfillment in shipping.

The magnificent work of the port of Havana--the most important in the country --should be pointed out. It has accumulated more than 41 percent of the total unloaded nationally.

Despite these results, there are worrisome questions in the chain as a whole. Undelivered inventories in yards and warehouses of the maritime terminals increase dangerously in Havana--more than 50 percent of the national volume--and in Santiago de Cuba.

It is necessary to put an end to this unfavorable situation. The transportation entities and recipients in the domestic economy play a very important role in this. It cannot be forgotten: filled warehouse, stilled port.

Also everyone must give maximum attention to the ships with extra demurrage. There are 11 with an average of 6.6 days and 9 more that could be delayed. Those that have already overstayed their agreed on time include eight in Havana and three between Cienfuegos, Santiago de Cuba and Felton.

The above implies that, in the remaining 12 days of the month, there must be work to make the period noteworthy not only for high port unloading but also increased movement by transportation and reception in the domestic economy warehouses.

Those three elements of the chain make it possible to confront the high number of ship arrivals, reducing the number of ships delayed to the minimum and, thus, saving the country foreign currency.

CUBA

DANGER SEEN IN LISTENING TO MUSIC ON COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY RADIO

Havana SOMOS JOVENES in Spanish May 85 p 13

[Text] Letters Section, SOMOS JOVENES, Calle 17 No. 354, Vedada, Havana 4.

I have arguments with my parents. I have a radio on which I listen to FM stations and, occasionally, counterrevolutionary broadcasts. They are opposed to this. I tell them that it does not affect me because they are never going to deflect me from my revolutionary ideas. When I hear them, I laugh at the number of lies they tell. What most interests me is the music on those stations. That is why I listen to them. [Signed] Jose Antonio, Villa Clara.

It seems that you have not found better comedy programs for **yourself** than those broadcasts. Those things are not as amusing as you think. What you hear is believed by listeners in Latin America who also receive that poison packaged in "good" music which is unquestionably the "hook" they use as a lure. In your case, you must admit you have been lured. It reminds me of the myth of the song of the sirens. They lured sailors with bewitching music. Ulysses managed to trick them and navigated safely to Penelope. It is necessary to be selective. If someone insulted your revolution to your face, would you laugh? If it were a person, you would surely slap him or fight him. The fact that it is on radio does not change the principle although, in this case, the right response is to tune in to another station. Think about it and decide for yourself. Do not act by force but by conviction. Note that your arguments are very weak. Look for others.

7717
CSO: 3248/469

CUBA

BRIEFS

SALT PLANT INAUGURATED--Cuba's biggest and most modern salt processing plant has been officially inaugurated in Caimanera Municipality, Guantanamo Province by Politburo member Pedro Miret. The plant is capable of processing 100,000 metric tons of salt annually. Its inauguration was part of the activities commemorating the 32d anniversary of the Moncada Barracks attack. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 27 Jul 85 FL]

TALKS WITH JAPANESE COMMUNISTS--Kenji Miyamoto, chairman of the Japanese Communist Party, held a dialogue with the Cuban delegates to an international symposium in Tokyo, on the elimination of atomic bombs and the prevention of nuclear war. During their meeting, they discussed the recently concluded symposium and the Cuban visitors' impression during their tour of Hiroshima, the first city to be attacked by the United States with an atomic bomb 40 years ago. They also stressed the solidarity received by Nicaragua at this event, where Sandinist Front delegate Ramon Caceres thoroughly reviewed his country's situation. The Cuban and Japanese representatives agreed on the importance of the symposium, the developing countries' foreign debt problem, and its connection with the struggle for peace. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2030 GMT 18 Jul 85 FL]

OVER 117,000 WORKERS IN BRIGADES--So far 1,596 permanent brigades that include 117,294 workers have been created in the country, according to Lazaro Dominguez, member of the Executive Secretariat of the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions], during a press conference. In his report, the labor leader stated that the lack of internal economic calculations in the establishments, shops and brigades is interrupting progress to organize more collectives. The brigade is the basic economic cell of the enterprise so that the workers can measure their economic indicators. Dominguez indicated that the Ministry of Agriculture is making a considerable effort with permanent brigades in agriculture. He also cited the efforts made to create brigades in the unions of light industry, the food industry and the chemical-mining-energy sector while construction is behind. [Excerpt] [Havana GRANMA in Spanish 12 Jun 85 p 1] 7717

CSO: 3248/469

ECUADOR

PEASANT LEADER ON LATIN AMERICAN FOREIGN DEBT

PA261542 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 20 Jul 85

[Interview with (Mejias Tatamuez), secretary general of the Ecuadoran National Federation of Peasant Organizations and member of the delegation to the recent conference of Latin American and Caribbean workers in Havana; questioner not identified; place and date not give--recorded]

[Text] [Question] What did the recent trade union conference of Latin American and Caribbean workers, in which the main topic was the foreign debt problem, represent to you?

[Tatamuez] This conference will go down in Latin America's history, since there was massive representation of workers and peasants and we analyzed the foreign debt problems. It was a great historic event. The main thing is that we agreed that under no circumstance will we pay our country's foreign debts to the IMF, which is adopting measures against us, pushing us to misery and hunger. This is the hour of the unity of the democratic forces, including the church, to end this problem. The church should be involved because it is carrying out a program called liberation theology [as heard].

[Question] Ecuador has a large Indian-peasant population that is more or less the same size as in Bolivia and Peru. We want to know what these groups think about the struggle against the foreign debt that is affecting that population?

[Tatamuez] I am from Ecuador, and I love my country very much. We peasants do not really know who obtained the famous loans or how they were obtained. We do not know who received those loans or who benefited from them. However, we can state without a doubt that those who benefited were the big industrialists, the bad politicians, and the big landowners. They stole the loaned money. Therefore, we demand that the foreign debt be paid by those sectors. They should solve that problem. I know only that we peasants have to work very hard for our subsistence, and we think we have to tell the population who it was that benefited from these loans. They are the ones who are to blame for this crisis, since we know the debt is unpayable. As a result of this, there is hunger and misery in Ecuador. If Ecuador decides to pay the foreign debt, the peasants and the workers would have to work for 3 years without wages, without eating, and without meeting their needs. This

would be impossible. Those who are born and even those yet to be born would become debtors without having been involved in any way. That is why all the patriotic organizations, including those of the peasants, have made the decision not to pay a single cent of the foreign debt.

The Ecuadoran peasants do not have the necessary education. They do not have health centers. They do not have feeder roads to bring out their products. There are no agrarian credits to increase production. There is no housing. That is why we reiterate that the Ecuadoran peasants issue a call to the Latin American and Caribbean peasants to form a common front against those who oppress and exploit the population. This appeal to struggle against misery and exploitation is addressed especially to the peasants of Bolivia, Peru, and Ecuador, who have historical and geographic ties.

CSO: 3348/874

EL SALVADOR

BISHOPS ISSUE PASTORAL LETTER ON RECONCILIATION

PA101400 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Aug 85.

[Text] [Raul Beltran, Radio Cadena YSU announcer] We will be informing you immediately about the statement issued by the Episcopal Conference of El Salvador, which comments on the problems of violence in El Salvador. The letter issued by the Episcopal Conference of El Salvador is signed by Msgrs. Marcos Rene Revelo, Arturo Rivera y Damas, Jose Eduardo Alvarez, Jose Oscar Barahona Castillo, Rodrigo Orlando Cabrera, Gregorio Rosa Chavez, and Fernando Saenz Lacaye, and by the conference secretary general, Father Leopoldo Barreiro.

The long awaited collective letter from the Episcopal Conference of El Salvador is a most important document that clarifies situations and requests an end to the violence in El Salvador. It also calls for reconciliation and peace.

Since this is a matter of interest for all the Salvadoran people, we immediately present to you Msgr. Marcos Rene Revelo, bishop of Santa Ana and president of the Episcopal Conference of El Salvador. Then we will have for you the text of the pastoral letter on the need for reconciliation and peace in El Salvador.

Here is Msgr. Revelo on YSU explaining the title given to this important document. Go ahead, monsignor.

[Begin Revelo recording] The title of the document is: Reconciliation and Peace. This is the title the bishops of El Salvador have given to their collective pastoral letter dated 6 August, when we commemorate the Lord's transfiguration.

The document was motivated by the grave situation affecting almost all Salvadorans, especially because of the violence provoked by the war.

According to the church's postors, this situation is further aggravated by the violence that is about to be unleashed. This will result in further destruction, poverty, anguish, pain, and death.

In this context, the stagnation and deterioration of the dialogue, which was initiated in La Palma on 15 October of last year with so many hopes, could definitely close the road to a peaceful solution of the crisis that is devastating the country.

In this regard the bishops warn that if the dialogue fails, El Salvador will have no road left but that of total destruction at a very high cost in human lives and perhaps irreparable deterioration of national coexistence.

The dialogue, as the only humane and Christian alternative for peace in El Salvador, is undoubtedly the key issue in the pastoral letter issued by the Salvadoran Episcopal Conference. Starting from this fundamental conviction, the document acknowledges that many Christians and men of good will observe the dialogue with doubts and distrust while others reject it completely. According to the bishops, the reason for this is so far there has not been an authentic dialogue.

In fully addressing the subject of the dialogue, the Episcopal Conference maintains that the dialogue will be difficult, but that it is both possible and necessary. The dialogue is possible if common well-being is sought. It is possible if it is sincere. In other words, an authentic dialogue is required. Here is the most important aspect of the document: It describes in detail the conditions and characteristics of an authentic dialogue. This was done thanks to teachings on the subject by Pope Paul VI and John Paul II.

The true dialogue will come as a result of a sincere effort to respond to the anguish, pain, weariness, and fatigue of all those people who want peace--as Pope John Paul II said during his visit to El Salvador--with a search for agreements.

The bishops of El Salvador are speaking first of all to Catholics, but other religions are included in this message of conversion and reconciliation that Christ made possible, and announced, with his death and resurrection. This is why it is repeatedly affirmed that true peace is possible only if hearts are transformed. Reconciliation is the path to peace.

The document concludes by appealing for prayers and work for peace since peace is basically a gift from God, but it is also a task he entrusted to mankind. [end recording]

[Beltran] This has been the introduction to the pastoral letter by Msgr. Marcos Rene Revelo, president of the Episcopal Conference of El Salvador.

The letter is comprised of three parts; the first part talks about some of our concerns. The Episcopal Conference of El Salvador states the following:

[First unidentified announcer] Part one: Some of Our Concerns.

At our meeting last July we examined closely the situation of the church and the country. At the conclusion of our analysis we perceived the outline of a somber panorama, above all due to the different forms of violence taking place in El Salvador. Practically all these forms of violence are part of the armed conflict we are withstanding. Here are some of the concerns which have shaken our hearts and most as pastors:

1. [number as heard] Violence. It is difficult to imagine how so much violence can fit into such a small territory. We refer above all to the violence that provokes a war, this lengthy and useless war that has already entered its 6th year and whose end still seems so distant. The violence of war takes on various forms among us, including kidnappings, death threats, blackmail, destruction of vehicles, different forms of sabotage, transportation strikes, illegal arrests, tortures, false charges, frequent use of air support, mass exodus, and so forth.

As if this were not enough, we must add to this endless list the infernal noise of small and heavy-caliber weapons fire, which pits brothers against brothers, leaving behind a macabre cortege of death, widows, orphans, wounded, and invalids. Perhaps those who do not live in the country's conflictive zones think that our description is extremely dramatic. However, those who have personally suffered the scourge of violence might think that our description falls short of the mark. Anyway, we cannot ignore this tragic reality or remain idle during this difficult situation that prevails in our homeland.

[Beltran] Later, answering questions, Msgr. Gregorio Rosas Chavez said the dialogue in La Palam on 15 October was a romantic moment in El Salvador. The meeting in Ayagualo was defined as the confrontation phase. The third phase, yet to come, could become the convergence that has reached a stalemate, because the two sides admit it deals with humanization of the conflict. However, extreme efforts are being exerted to make it possible very soon. Part one of the pastoral letter continues:

[Second unidentified announcer] The Dialogue's Deterioration and Stalemate.

No one can deny that our people are weary and sickened, and reject so much violence. Consequently, the fact that the process of dialogue for peace has deteriorated so much causes much concern. In addition, the dialogue has reached a dangerous stalemate that may lead to complete failure. As we all know, the Episcopal Conference of El Salvador and the Holy Father Pope John Paul II have continuously advocated dialogue as the road to solve the war conflict that devastates our country. We stated this in our 15 July 1982 message. On that occasion we urged all to seek peace through rational means, not

through the useless road of violence. We urged the parties in conflict to start a sincere, honest, and loyal dialogue, full of goodwill and a spirit of authentic patriotism.

Likewise, Pope John Paul II proposed the dialogue as the topic to be discussed in the 1983 meeting for peace, stating that the dialogue for peace was urgently needed in our times. He emphasized this while visiting El Salvador on 6 March 1983. Nevertheless, even though we and the Pope advocate the dialogue, several Christians and Salvadorans of goodwill view it with mistrust, even with concern. Others are openly against the dialogue because they think that a real dialogue cannot be started with the groups up in arms. Some think the church is being manipulated because it advocates the dialogue, and they believe that this would open the road to install a Marxist dictatorship in El Salvador. All this provokes confusion and uncertainty among the Salvadorans. Thus, the need to explain once and for all why the church advocates the dialogue and, above all, to clarify which dialogue we propose and why we cannot give up on this.

[Beltran] Before we continue reading the pastoral letter, we must note that Episcopal Conference President Marcos Rene Revelo said foreign interests are at stake here and it is not fair that the war should be imposed for the sake of the great powers' geopolitical interests. Consequently, the Catholic Church spoke quite clearly this morning, saying that the two parties in conflict are trying to achieve humanization of the conflict.

In addition, the guerrilla groups ask that there be no more air raids and mass displacements of the civilian population. Likewise, the church says that the government has asked the leftists to stop the sabotage and violence as weapons of war. This is the position of the government and the guerrilla groups, which will have to seek a consensus during the third meeting, if it is ever held, before implementing an armed solution in El Salvador, according to the church's thesis.

Part one of the lengthy pastoral letter talks about manipulation of the Christian faith by some sectors in El Salvador:

[First announcer] After discussing some problems which affect the national community, we wish to point out one which directly affects the sons of the church: the manipulation of the Christian faith. Efforts have always been exerted to use the church to obtain political advantage. This manipulation has come from all sectors of the political world. The greatest danger derived from manipulation of faith now comes from the so-called extreme left groups or those linked with them. Seeking to avail themselves of many Christian people's generosity--and this unfortunately includes several priests and nuns--these groups advocate the option that favors the poor.

However, it is interpreted in a sense that opposes what was clearly stated by Pope John Paul II and the Latin American bishops who met in Puebla. These groups do not accept the church's doctrine, according to which the options favoring the poor are certainly preferential, but it is not an exclusive right and does not exclude anyone.

1. They do not recognize that radical poverty prevails, where God does not live in the hearts of men who are slaves of power, pleasure, money, and violence.

2. That distorted vision leads to an appreciation of the reality of injustice that is strongly influenced by Marxist ideology. When the results of this analysis are presented to the public by the self-styled Christian communities or groups, the humble and uneducated people become confused.

We have clearly pointed out that danger of this manipulation, seeking to prevent painful tensions within the church, which could easily lead to rifts that would gravely endanger our pastoral work in a nation that needs reconciliation so much.

In ancient times, Saint Ignatius of Antioquia felt happy when he saw the priests of Ephesus living in harmony with his bishops like the strings of a lyre. After urging the Christians to live in peace and harmony with love, he warned: No one should be deceived. He who is not close to an altar is depriving himself of partaking the communion bread.

[Beltran] We will now read the second part of the pastoral letter which dwells on the Catholic Church activity on the urgency for reconciliation and peace in our country.

On announcing the pastoral letter, the Catholic Church insists that the dialogue has been interrupted--definitely, tentatively, or momentarily. At any rate the dialogue has reached an impasse. The church says the dialogue is in this situation because both sides of the conflict have different points about where they should meet. The two say the dialogue is necessary, and that the church feels a path is opened; it is a very narrow path, but the path can be broadened in very optimistic terms. The church says that two different languages are being spoken. One of them is the language of propaganda, and the other one is the language of convictions.

If the church were to take the first point, in other words, the point of propaganda, it could then be said that there is nothing left to do, but this is not true in practice. So it continues working in this sense. In the second part it talks about reconciliation and peace and it says:

[First announcer] As pastors and teachers of the people of God, we are obligated to project the light of the Gospel of Christ over the problems we have just described. We do this as part of our work as bishops and we are aware of the seriousness of our responsibility. We also do it as a service to our people who want peace. It is undoubtedly a pastoral dialogue, on touchy subjects that are very current topics. To prevent any errors, we will say in the first place that Christ has entrusted us with a central message of peace and grace to relay to the world. It is a message of redemption and hope, it is a message of reconciliation and peace, it is a message of conversion:

1. [figure as heard] Repent and believe in the Gospel. As the bishops who met at a recent Synod on reconciliation and penitance have said: There is much injustice in the world and peace is constantly threatened. However, hope can never be extinguished. In the midst of this profound sorrow, the human heart never ceases to yearn for life and love. This is the message of the Synod of the bishops in the OSSERVATORE ROMANO of 30 October 1983, page 1. However, what is the heart of man like? We know very well that division and sin prevails, and all the evil we find in the world stems from there. That is why Pope John Paul II says that peace is born in a new heart. This is the most original thing that the church can offer to today's world, and more specifically our country, which has been torn apart by the violence of the war: The good news that calls for repentance and conversion.

This is why our first words are the same as those that Our Lord uttered when he inaugurated his ministry of reconciliation: Repent and believe in the Gospel. We need that conversion of the heart when--choked by violence--we are tempted into returning evil for evil. We need that conversion when we see no hope in the dialogue as a way to peace and are tempted into believing that peace rests on the muzzles of rifles and other weapons of death. We need that conversion when the temptation arises to make ideologies absolute and make relative the Gospel demands that we should pardon and love our enemies.

[Second announcer] No to Violence, Yes to Peace.

With this title--that was the topic of the drive for peace in 1978--we published a collective pastoral letter on 15 September 1980. In it, we pointed out the threat to irrational, blind violence while the moral conscience suffered confusion and deterioration, crisis of values, and fanatical exaltation of rancor, hatred, and revenge. With prophetic words, we asked whether there is still hope in this whirlwind of lunacy that threatens to swallow us into a sea of brothers' blood. As it has happened so many times before, the word of the church did not fall on good ground.

[Beltran] In addition, the Catholic Church has said it does not serve any particular group and that it is committed to its parishioners and to seeking peace and reconciliation. The church has said clearly that

within the dialogue the two sides really mistrust each other. As a result of this, the only alternative is to be either friends or enemies. Meanwhile, the Salvadoran people's blood will continue to be shed. Who knows for how long? When the matter comes to using peaceful methods, the church defines its stance in the pastoral letter like this:

[First announcer] The Pope opposed violent methods. Peace is to be realized in truth, built on justice, encouraged by love, and realized in freedom. Only by respecting these values, can a genuine peace be enjoyed, peace in which man is considered in the whole and as a unity. Regarding the situation in El Salvador, a new factor was pointed out by John Paul II in his 6 August 1982 letter, which he again presented during his visit to our country. The new institutional opportunities opened, thanks to the electoral processes, are the key to all processes, are the key to all democratization processes. We want to stress this reality because not only have we encouraged the people to participate in the elections, but we have supported the government initiatives toward peaceful changes.

In this document, we devote ample space to the topic of violence. We have said our situation of violence is in part an inheritance from the past, due to its burden of injustice. To this, the nefarious work of international communism was to be added, as well as the violent reaction of the far-rightists. Our analysis also indicated the serious harm inflicted on our youth by a school that expelled God and scorned the principles of Christian morals. Hence, it was easy for unscrupulous politicians to take advantage of the born generosity of the young people and push them into violence. That pastoral letter also denounced the violence of the armed groups that appeared at that time, vigorously serving both the far-leftists and the far-rightists.

Our document also seriously warned the Armed Forces against abuses of authority in their activities. With the same clarity, we recalled the church's doctrine on violence, which we condemn as inhuman and anti-evangelical, because the sudden or violent changes of structures would be deceptive and inefficient and would not suit the people's dignity. The people demand realization of necessary transformations. This is what the Pope said in his speech to the peasants in Bogota in 1978. Following the Pope, the Salvadoran church said today that violence cannot be justified even though it aims at noble purposes of justice and solidarity, because an armed revolution generally produces new injustices, introduces new imbalances, and provokes new ruins. One cannot fight one evil with an even greater evil. We have devoted much space to discuss our letter of 1980 to show how timely and right the reflections were. Had they been considered, we certainly would not be drowning in this sea of violence that we all regret but no one seems able to stop. Two years later, John Paul II addressed us Salvadoran bishops to support and encourage us in our efforts toward reconciliation and peace. In his letter, the Pope referred to the methods that have led to a fratricidal war, putting on one side all who consider the armed

struggle a necessary instrument to achieve a new social order, and on the other any and all who invoke the principle of national security to legitimize brutal repressions.

The Pope concluded with this sharp assertion: Violence cannot be rationally justified, much less by Christians.

[Beltran] Here is why the Church believes in dialogue. We will now read the last part of the pastoral letter, urging the sides involved in the conflict to stop violence in El Salvador:

[Second announcer] Man has been created in God's image and likeness. For this reason, man is the only being able to hold dialogue with his Creator and his brethren. Hence, when we speak of dialogue to seek social peace, we do not refer just to the one caught between conflicting parties while the others remain as only onlookers. Dialogue for peace is a duty of all. Dialogue must occur in the neighborhood, private or public organizations, the workplace to achieve labor harmony, and in the church. For Christians, to close themselves off from dialogue or cease to believe in it, is to deny their own greatness and dignity. Even more, it is to offend our Father in heaven. Therefore, for us, dialogue is something dear. It is, above all, dialogue for salvation that God establishes with the sinner, a dialogue that reached its highest expression when the Son of God was made flesh and dwelt among us.

The church--sent into the world to continue Christ's mission--has been called to tirelessly resume this dialogue for the salvation of the world. That is to say, with every man, because the Gospel is for every man. Here the duty to evangelize is born, and this is the church's main task since the church has been formed to evangelize. This is its most important mission. It is worthwhile to say this with the words of Pope Paul VI in his encyclical *Ecclesia Sum*, whose entire third has been devoted to dialogue. The first patrimony received from Christ is the decision, the offer, the announcement that we all know very well: Go ye therefore and teach all nations. This is Christ's last order to his apostles. Today's apostles have their own unavoidable mission. We will give these disciples the same injection of love.

[Beltran] This is why the church must establish a dialogue with the world in which it must live. The church becomes the word. The church becomes a message. Finally, the church becomes dialogue.

To end the reading of this pastoral letter, shedding light on the violent situation in the country, this radio station reads the document's final section:

[First announcer] When we observe the somber panorama of our land devastated by an armed conflict and its sequel of evils, we have felt-- as many of you have--tempted to relinquish dialogue as a way to achieve the peace, desired for so long.

[Beltran] We conclude that the dialogue is difficult, yet necessary and possible, according to all Salvadoran bishops. Thus, the Catholic Church in the next few hours will await reaction from the government of the republic, from the various opposition groups, as well as from the various political groups and from the extreme left groups in El Salvador.

CSO: 3248/493

GRENADA

EXPORT DUTY CUT; FARMERS END THREAT TO CUT PRODUCTION

FL301937 Bridgetown CANA in English 1740 GMT 30 Jul 85

[Text] St George's, July 30--Three farmers' organisations say they have withdrawn a threat to suspend production and have accepted government's decision to grant a 25 per cent reduction in the export duty on Grenada's chief crops, independent Grenadian Senator Norris James has announced.

James made the disclosure following several meetings involving a delegation from the Grenada Banana Cooperative Society (GBCS), the Grenada Cocoa Association (GCA), the Grenada Cooperative Nutmeg Association and Agriculture Minister George Brizan to look into the tax which was imposed after World War II.

The government announced the reduction in the duty in its budget presentation in April, and promised to remove total (?export duty) over the next four years. However, farmers had threatened to stop production unless the tax was withdrawn immediately.

In the budget debate, two government junior ministers--Tillman Thomas and Kenny Lalsingh--who represent residents in predominantly agricultural constituencies, supported the call for the removal of the duty.

According to James, the farmers joint committee had made a compromise with government, but it had recommended that the duties should be totally removed for the next fiscal year.

We are serious about that because today, Grenada is the only country in the world where an export duty is paid on raw agricultural commodities. We think this is unjust. Raw agricultural commodities should not be taxed, and we farmers have agreed to pursue this matter and to pursue it vigorously, he said.

CSO: 3298/924

GRENADA

BRIZAN PROMISES EQUAL WEIGHT TO AGRICULTURE, TOURISM

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 29 Jul 85 p 5

[Text] St. George's, Sun. (Cana)--The Grenada Government will not deemphasise the dominant role of agriculture in favour of tourism, but will place equal emphasis on developing both vital sectors of the economy, Agriculture and Tourism Minister George Brizan said.

The Government's position was spelt out in the wake of calls by sections of the population, including hoteliers, for more emphasis to be placed on tourism development at the expense of agriculture, which has encountered serious production, marketing and export price difficulties in recent years.

Exports of agricultural crops like nutmegs, bananas, and cocoa account for most foreign exchange earned by Grenada. Tourism ranks second.

Addressing a tourism seminar, Mr. Brizan said Government had studied 39 countries which had neglected agriculture in favour of developing other areas of economic activity and the result was that these countries were worse off five years afterwards.

"The lesson to be learnt in Grenada is that both tourism and agriculture must develop at full speed and it should not be a question of one at the expense of the other."

Grenada, undergoing a reconstruction process after major economic dislocation caused by a 1983 political crisis, is banking on tourism and industry to aid agriculture in giving the battered economy a badly needed boost.

Mr. Brizan said deemphasising agriculture in favour of tourism could eventually hurt the tourist industry itself because there would be a mass influx of people from the agricultural areas into the tourist region.

CSO: 3298/924

GUATEMALA

CUSG LEADER ALFARO COMMENTS ON DIALOGUE, DEMOCRATIC OPENING

Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 7 Jul 85 pp 6-7 Sunday supplement

[Report on interview with Juan Alfaro, secretary general of the CUSG, by Danilo de Leon; date and place not specified]

[Text] The Guatemalans are surprised that a high-class person and a lawyer and notary to boot is the union representative in the national dialogue which made lukewarm, according to political and economic experts, recommendations to the government about taking the first step toward solutions to the national economic crisis.

The man is Juan Alfaro, secretary general of the CUSG [Guatemalan Confederation of Trade Union Unity]. In addition to telling his personal history in this interview, he gave the opinion that all is not lost in the country. However, he harshly judges the political time we are living in. It cannot be denied that he is an academic union man, a duality that can seem contradictory to some people but is, actually, the product of the modern age of change in the labor sectors. He confesses that he could have been a social outcast but was properly directed by his family environment.

Our first contact with Alfaro was at the presidential house where the photographs we published were taken after the meeting when the chief of state announced the recommendations made by the technical committee for national dialogue. The next day we had breakfast in a downtown hotel. Contrary to what generally happens with the people we interview, we paid the check this time.

Following is part of the dialogue:

[Question] In general, the workers and laborers have leaders from their same group. You apparently are the exception. Tell me, what is a lawyer doing as secretary general of the CUSG? What is a professional doing as representative of the workers in the national dialogue?

[Answer] I come from a family of laborers. I personally have suffered all the limitations of the lower class in the country. I could have been a social outcast but, fortunately, the love and direction of my parents led me along a, let us say, normal road with that great majority of those who do not have anything but have enough ability to understand that personal effort and joint

effort have their reward. My childhood was not at all different from the boys in the district who have daily problems and satisfactions in their own world. When I began to work, I could firmly form a union awareness and identify with the popular sectors to which I have belonged all my life.

I worked as an apprentice at the Electrical Enterprise and twice was secretary general of the Light and Power Union. When the Guatemalan federation of workers was disorganized in the 1970's, I became secretary general to revive it. It had 4 unions when I received it and 26 when I left the position. We had a problem with a peasant union that could not renegotiate its collective work agreement for lack of 200 quetzals. We did not have a lawyer to advise us in those things. That problem made me lean toward law. When I was more than 30 years old, I enrolled in the school of legal and social sciences of the Universidad de San Carlos. I became a lawyer with the idea of more effectively helping my work comrades. During all these years, I have known the serious situation that the Guatemalan worker faces in his organization, especially under President Lucas Garcia. In my opinion, this was one of the most repressive, most brutal and most inhumane periods that the Guatemalan has ever faced. Consequently, there is a disorganized people who can be prey to anything. Disorganization is also one of the problems of the union movement.

[Question] Various national sectors have spoken out against the new taxes because, in the end, they affect the poorest sectors of the population. As a representative of the popular sectors, did you approve the new tax package?

[Answer] Let me explain to you that one of the rules of the dialogue was to not vote. A recommendation was not approved or disapproved. I don't want to give you a concrete answer. I prefer to confirm the position of the workers who have always been against taxes and the injustice of indirect taxes. The latter represent about 80 percent of all the government taxes and are paid by the consumer and the less privileged sectors.

In past publications we have shown the injustice of the Guatemalan tax system that is based more on indirect taxes than direct ones. Anyway, the latter are transferred to the consumer but with greater difficulty. Examples are the territorial tax and the income tax. Consistent with this point of view and with the idea of defending the workers and the lower income sectors, we explained from the beginning of the dialogue that those who should pay are the sectors that have always enjoyed the best times in the country. Therefore, we proposed that, instead of taxes, stabilization bonds be created and purchased by the enterprises. This would be a loan from private enterprises to the government to end the problem of a shortage of economic resources. This was given a lot of discussion but the government representatives themselves did not agree because they were more interested in permanent, steady income, not bonds that would be a one-time revenue.

Various situations were analyzed. The fiscal deficit is more than 350 million quetzals which means that, for the government to end the problem, it had to issue more unendorsed currency which would provoke more inflation and, consequently, a price increase. This would include the products in the family market basket. The essentials have not been a solution because these articles

have risen in price. In the end, we agreed that taxes be created that would not directly affect the prices of basic products. One of the major taxes is the tax on exchange transactions in dollars. Some essentials, especially fuels, were exempted.

We know that the taxes are transferred to the consumer. However, if measures are taken as a whole, it can be one way to balance the situation. There is another tax on luxury articles. The problem lies in defining "luxury expenses." What is a luxury for one person is a basic necessity for another. The flight of foreign currency must be stopped but basic articles should not be affected by a price increase. We workers participating in the dialogue tried to avoid more indirect taxes. We hope we achieved this.

[Question] How were the recommendations the technical committee for the dialogue made to the government approved if you say there was no vote?

[Answer] First by consensus and then by reasoned positions so that all the opinions reached the chief of state, those of the majority and also those of the minority.

[Question] Did you know that by reducing the fiscal deficit about 100 million quetzals, some 20,000 more Guatemalans will lose their jobs? Did you approve that reduction?

[Answer] The state cannot spend more than it takes in because this leads the country to a crisis situation like we have now. Therefore, it was proposed that the deficit be reduced by unnecessary expenses like travel expenses, trips abroad, fuel for official vehicles that are not used for work, etc. It was always considered that jobs should not be affected. It was established that projects already under construction should not be suspended in order not to dismiss workers. However, those the government cannot start up due to the economic crisis should not be constructed.

[Question] Do you think that the recommendations of the dialogue will solve the economic crisis?

[Answer] To be honest, no. The economic problem is serious. The foreign sector of the economy should be revitalized to obtain dollars and the domestic sector to strengthen the quetzal and productivity. The recommendations can give the government a little breathing room but they are not a solution for the country. It is like giving an aspirin to a cancer patient. In this case, the economic cancer should be attacked in depth with a serious economic revitalization program at all levels.

[Question] Some politicians say that the production sector imposed its will on the dialogue. Is that true?

[Answer] It is not true. The greatest opponents to the taxes approved were the representatives of the production sector. They opposed the selective tax on consumption and currency exchange because, according to them, it makes their operations difficult. As you will recall, the recommendations include

ceiling prices, renegotiation of wages, union freedom, etc. All these aspects do not mean that the production sector imposed its will.

[Question] Some pressure groups say that there was no dialogue, just a monologue. Others feel that the government passed the hot potato for others to do what it should do. What do you say?

[Answer] We could partially agree with what the politicians say. I want to remind you that the dialogue came about as a result of the opposition of the business and production sector to the establishment of the tax package, "black Monday." At that time, the government had two problems: either impose taxes or let the situation deteriorate more. It then very cleverly convoked the national dialogue and left the search for solutions to the crisis in the hands of the participants. In that sense, it partially washed its hands of the problem. If we look at it with the future in mind, as a democratic attempt to find national consensus, it is positive. Also the solutions can be good, some for the future. The dialogue was forced by the reaction against the tax package. The dialogue came too late for taxes but it is in time if this practice is continued in the future.

[Question] Politically, what direction does unionism go in?

[Answer] Unionism does not have a direction as to political parties. Remember that the worker's political rights have been curtailed for many years. Unfortunately, there is a provision in the labor code that prohibits political participation by unions.

I think it is necessary to orient unionism politically but not carry it. To carry it to a political party would be a mistake. However, there is a need for the worker to be politically committed to his cause, to have a clear concept of the state and the government and what function they play in relation to the people. He must know that the government is there to serve the people, not to help itself from the people. The worker must be clear about what popular opinion means and the importance of a conscious vote. The political bans only lead to the castration of the union movement.

[Question] What is your opinion about the process to return to democracy?

[Answer] The recrudescence of violence leads to doubt about the possibility of holding the November elections. I think the future of the democracy in Guatemala is still uncertain. We are watching. The people are indecisive about participating. Unfortunately, the politicians have not managed to penetrate into the awareness of the Guatemalans. They have not known how to provide the confidence they need. Of course, I appeal to the union movement and to the people of Guatemala to participate, to seek democracy at all costs. I hope that unionism votes for the best possibilities offered to end the crisis. I am sure that the worker will not be swayed by commercial propaganda. The workers will vote very consciously.

[Question] Which candidate has the best chance to become president?

[Answer] Vinicio Cerezo is perhaps the most viable candidate at this time. The idea that the Guatemalan Christian Democracy party presents of united development can be what the country needs to reconcile the interests of the various national sectors and to produce a permanent dialogue on our problems.

[Question] What do you have to say about the fact that the chief of state has acknowledged military participation in party politics? According to what he said in the last national dialogue meeting, some of them have been dismissed.

[Answer] I was surprised by that statement after hearing repeatedly that the top military did not interfere in party politics. The statements by the chief of state acknowledge that some military do not obey the decision by the top hierarchy of the army as to apoliticalness and neutrality in the process to return to constitutionality. It is a delicate subject that can have national and international repercussions but it must be discussed because the fate of the country is at stake.

[Question] Why did the union members agree to participate in the dialogue?

[Answer] First, because we are Guatemalans and the responsibility to seek solutions to major national problems must be everyone's commitment. Also because we hope to soon see economic revitalization and the creation of new jobs. We hope that the escalation of prices that unbalance the budgets of the neediest homes will stop. If we achieve some of this, our presence in the dialogue would be justified. Also we feel that we must not only be informed but vigilant about what happens and what affects the Guatemalans. If prices shoot up and the positive measures recommended in the dialogue are not put into practice, you can be sure that we union members will go out into the streets to demand our rights.

7717

CSO: 3248/456

JAMAICA

IMF APPROVES NEW LOAN OF US\$115 MILLION; AUSTERITY CITED

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 18 Jul 85 p 1

[Text]

A NEW LOAN TO JAMAICA OF US\$115-million from the International Monetary Fund was approved by a meeting of the IMF Board in Washington D.C. yesterday.

An Associated Press dispatch from Washington last night said:

"Jamaica will get a \$115-million from the International Monetary Fund if the Government follows an agreed on austerity programme, it was announced Wednesday.

"The Caribbean nation already owes the Fund about \$632 million.

"The Fund's announcement said Jamaica's programme 'centres on a further tightening in demand management policies,' which usually means a hold-down of wages. The government had cut its deficit by increasing revenue, reducing spending and improving the performance of government-owned enterprises, the IMF said.

"Jamaica was praised for progress in freeing its economy and catching up on payments on its foreign debts. But the Fund noted that poor business for bauxite — Jamaica's major export — had complicated the country's situation."

A top Government spokesman told the **Gleaner** last night that while he could not confirm the figure, Jamaica's programme had gone before the IMF Board in Washington yesterday.

Prime Minister Seaga had told Parliament during the Budget debate in June that Jamaica had successfully completed its one-year standby agreement with the IMF and reached an understanding on the terms of a new 20-month agreement to commence August 1, 1985 to March 31, 1987; it was to be submitted to the Fund for approval in mid-July.

Mr. Seaga said then that the amount involved was about US\$120 million, that being the full amount that Jamaica's quota allowed. He said:

"The terms do not differ in any major respect from the previous agreement except that this agreement has been worked out within the frame of detailed projections which cover the next four years to March 1990. Accordingly the performance of the economy has been projected over the next four years in respect of all known factors with fiscal budgets and balance-of-payment accounts projected for each of those four years."

JAMAICA

WORLD BANK PROJECTS DECLINE IN GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Jul 85 p 1

[Text]

According to a recent World Bank report, the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of Jamaica will decline by 4 to 5 percent in 1985 and about 2 to 3 percent in 1986. After 1986 they expect GDP to grow by about 2 percent per annum. This means that overall the economy is not expected to surpass the 1984 level before the next decade.

In its recent "Country Brief" on Jamaica the World Bank says that ".... living standards can be expected to decline and the public sector is expected to be considerably reduced in size over the period. Unemployment, already registering almost 30 percent can be expected to increase."

The report further states regarding non-traditional exports that "....even under optimistic assumptions it will be well into the 1990's before such exports could have increased sufficiently to fill the gap created by the loss of bauxite/alumina earnings."

Between 1985 and 1990 the World Bank estimates "the need for gross financing over the five years of US\$3,259 million, or US\$1,326

million net." It gives as a reason for this high financing requirement the plan of the IMF "....to reduce its exposure by US\$376 million over the period."

The World Bank is concerned that "The projected scenario raises serious doubts about Jamaica's credit worthiness." In addition it says "these are compounded by fear as to the feasibility of carrying out the degree of adjustment necessary without causing political and social unrest."

This report said that "Jamaica's total public external debt had risen to a level of about US\$3.2 billion by the end of 1984, and with the depreciation of the exchange rate this is now at the equivalent of nearly 200 percent of GDP," with debt servicing of external debt "... now at the equivalent of over 50 percent of exports of goods and non-factor services."

The World Bank report said: "It will clearly be necessary to do all that is possible to assist Jamaica to successfully carry out its stabilization and structural adjustment programmes...." in the face of "a severe and potentially explosive unemployment problem...."

JAMAICA

PNP PEOPLE'S FORUM SPEAKERS CALL ON SEAGA TO RESIGN

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Jul 85 p 1

[Text]

A call for the Prime Minister to resign was made by several speakers at the monthly People's Forum of the People's National Party at the Oceana Hotel yesterday.

Forum chairman Mr. Carl Rattray said that in the "national interest," Mr. Seaga should resign.

His call came after a presentation which he elaborated on the Government being a "burden too heavy" for the people to carry.

The Party's spokesman on Education, Mr. Carlyle Dunkley, who spoke on the closure of Moneague, the plight of teachers and called for the establishment of National Council on Education, said that the Government's "credibility was completely shattered" and that the distrust prevailing had reached chronic levels.

General Secretary, Dr. Paul Robertson said that the PNP had only just begun to unveil its ability to make life impossible for the Govern-

ment. "The PNP will relentlessly pursue the objective of righting the heinous crime of December 1983," he said, adding that very shortly Mr. Michael Manley would be back at the helm to continue leading the fight.

A resolution put forward by constituency representative, Mr. Carl Marshall, called on Mr. Seaga to abandon the auction system and resign so that the people could elect a new Government.

Several resolutions were carried on the condition of the roads in St. Andrew, the garbage situation in Kingston, and the payment of benefits to paupers in St. Elizabeth.

Party Chairman P.J. Patterson accused Mr. Seaga of misleading about the budget. "The Government of Edward Seaga is redundant, it is high time for them to go," he told the forum.

He announced that Mr. Manley would be resuming normal duties shortly as he had recuperated fully.

CSO: 3298/931

JAMAICA

PNP ACCUSES SEAGA OF MISLEADING PUBLIC ON BUDGET

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 20 Jul 85 p 3

[Text]

The Chairman of the People's National Party, Mr. P.J. Patterson, has accused Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, the Hon. Edward Seaga, of departing from "traditional economic practices" and misleading the Jamaican people about the 1985/86 budget in face of the current expenditure cuts.

A set of figures had been presented by Mr. Seaga as basis for the budget but even while the debate on the figures was taking place in Parliament, figures were being changed, often without the knowledge of Ministers, Mr. Patterson said.

The PNP's Chairman was addressing the Party's monthly People's Forum at Occana Hotel on Thursday.

"The budget is no longer a meaningful exercise, just a collection of numbers that are put together for convenience once every year," Mr. Patterson said.

Mr. Patterson spoke of the cuts in education and the planned cuts in health which he said involved the shutting down of the disease control units, posing a threat to the health of the nation and having implications for the future of tourism.

"Are these cuts due to occurrences which have taken place since the budget was presented or did Seaga know of them and deliberately mislead the House and the country?" Mr. Patterson asked.

However, he said that the pattern which emerged suggested that the latter explanation was the correct one and that even while he (Mr. Seaga) was making his presentation, the figures were essentially meaningless.

The budget exercise, once holding a special place in the country's economic and financial calendar, had now become totally devalued, like the Jamaican dollar.

Describing other areas in which he said Mr. Seaga had departed from traditional economic practices, Mr. Patterson said that Mr. Seaga's claim that a 7.2 per cent deficit target had been achieved was hollow as reported expenditure levels were artificially low because Government had become the most unreliable debtor in town.

He told of \$200 million which he said was owed to the National Housing Trust by the Government and added that if the tax compliance certificate were applied to Government, it would be unable to import anything, being not up-to-date with its statutory deductions.

Mr. Patterson said that he had asked questions on a US\$30 million loan to the Government from an Austrian Bank and to date there had been no response.

Cayman company?

He then questioned whether money from the National Retained Account had been transferred to a company in

Grand Cayman and also whether Jamaica's oil bills were settled out of that account.

He also queried what residual amounts from the National Retained Account had gone into the Bank of Jamaica.

"We are not going to allow these questions to be treated in silence," Mr. Patterson declared.

He turned to lay-offs in the public sector now reaching a total of 34,000 to date, according to him. The consequence of this action would over the long term spoil the image of the Civil Service and would impede the ability to attract first rate people.

He blamed the troubles of the country on the "poor management style of Seaga," lacking consultation with the Civil Service and the over-centralisation of authority.

There was a deliberate effort to demoralise nurses, humiliate teachers, divide the Church on partisan lines, emasculate the trade unions and make excessive use of the military in areas hitherto unaccustomed, Mr. Patterson said. He warned against over-use of the military lest they draw conclusions that the Government was unfit to govern.

He said: "The Government of Edward Seaga is redundant — it is high time for them to go."

CSO: 3298/931

JAMAICA

UNIONS REMAIN AT LOGGERHEADS WITH GOVERNMENT

Activities on Labor Front

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 10 Jul 85 p 3

[Text]

The Ministry of Labour has scheduled meetings for today and tomorrow to conciliate the dispute between JALGO and the NWU, and the KSAC and Parish Council fire services administration, over the suspension of firemen pending investigations into their absence from work during the general strike.

The Ministry will look into the dispute as it affects rural firemen, who have been sent on vacation leave pending the investigations, at a meeting at 10.30 a.m. today. Tomorrow, at the same time, the Ministry will look into the dispute as it affects the KSAC firemen, some 200 of whom have been suspended on half pay pending the investigations.

The Gleaner understands that there are now some 80 KSAC firemen, including those who did not join the strike and some who have cut their long vacation leaves to return to work and assist the soldiers, manning the service islandwide for the past two weeks.

● In other areas of public sector labour disputes, progress was reported from Monday's talks between the Jamaica Teachers Association's negotiating team and the Minister of the Public Service, the Hon. Errol Anderson, in their negotiations for improvements in pay and fringe benefits for teachers.

The Gleaner understands that while the Minister, who was meeting the teachers for the first time since the dispute started, pointed out the lack of funds to meet their claims, there was some agreement on areas of fringe benefit claims which could be addressed.

Asked to comment on a JTA release on Monday evening which said that there was progress on the fringe benefit claims, Mr. Anderson said yesterday: "It was a cordial meeting. Proposals have been made which are to be studied by the teachers. In the meantime, work is continuing in my Ministry

29 August 1985

on other aspects of their claim. However, one has to realise that for every dollar of increase they are granted it will cost the Government \$1 million per annum, because we are dealing with about 21,000 teachers."

The Minister will be meeting the Jamaica Civil Service Association's negotiating team on Friday morning at ten, and the Resident Magistrates early next week. He said that approximately 35 unions and associations were involved in the negotiations which were continuing.

● Meanwhile, asked to comment yesterday on the series of meetings the NWU has been holding with delegates of the public utilities and the bauxite industry, Mr. Clive Dobson, the union's general secretary, said: "It appears that further action is going to be unavoidable. The whole scenario is in a confrontationist position and we have exhausted all the channels available to us."

Mr. Dobson noted that since this week Jamaica Telephone Company workers had been issued

letters, stating that they would not be paid for the period they were off the job and "reprimanding" them for the action, as well as stating that the letters would be placed on their files.

He said that the workers knew that they would not be paid for the period, but resented the fact that the letters would be placed on their files. The NWU, which represents the workers, has requested a meeting with the management and one is likely sometime today.

The union has been holding meetings with delegates from the bauxite industry, JAMINTEL, JPSCo and the JTCO to discuss the situation. Approximately 200 JPSCo workers were suspended for staying out over four days without explanation during the strike, which the company says is in breach of its regulations.

Mr. Dobson said that the meetings were being held to discuss the situation with the delegates in time for Sunday's meeting of the six trade unions who called the general strike, at the Oceana Hotel in Kingston, to decide what future action to take.

Reaction to Ultimatum

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 15 Jul 85 p 3

[Text]

A MOOD OF DISQUIET prevailed at yesterday's meeting of union delegates represented by the six major trade unions, called to discuss a plan of action in the face of a seven-day ultimatum served on the Prime Minister last week.

Official sources at the Oceana Hotel venue of the meeting told the Gleaner that militant delegates were dissatisfied and became boisterous about the fact that the leadership of the so-called Solidarity Alliance failed to initiate plans for action against the Prime Minister's lay-off exercise.

"We have left the meeting with no set agenda and no plan as to what further action will be taken," said one Solidarity Alliance aide.

However, all were agreed on sticking to the time-table of the ultimatum served on Mr. Seaga.

Inside sources said delegates complained bitterly about the slow pace at which the Solidarity Alliance was dealing with the massive wave of lay-offs in the public sector.

Above the din of the after-meeting chatter, one delegate noted that one of his colleagues who spoke yesterday attended last week's meeting as delegate but his accreditation was changed to that of observer yesterday, his having been laid off.

"It's better for us to take action now because things gone bad already," said one irate delegate, "Seaga don't care; you don't see him gone on world trip!"

Another delegate said he was very fed-up with the efforts at meeting and dialogue that was taking place while on the other hand workers were being thrown out on the streets.

"The time for action is now," shouted yet another.

Officials said that 50 per cent of the delegates who attended yesterday's meeting did so in the capacity as

observers. Their status had changed in one week because of lay-offs.

Mr. Claude O'Reagan, general secretary of JUPOPE, reported that some 1,521 of his members had been laid off last week from Government agencies ranging from hospitals, the Public Works Department and Bath Fountain to the Government Printing Office.

BITU's Island Supervisor, Senator Dwight Nelson, told delegates that his organisation would not be taking any further action until the Alliance had hammered out a plan of action to deal with the Government. He criticised the leadership for its failure to come up with this plan which, he suggested, should be put before the delegates for approval.

Senator Nelson's proposal was, however, viewed with skepticism, according to one meeting source who said that this was a move on the part of the BITU to stall the workers' struggle and give the Government more time to "trim the trade union movement down to bare bones."

The source said that Mr. Nelson's suggestion came as a "surprise" to the Alliance leadership because all their attempts to get the BITU to planning meetings had met with little success.

The Gleaner understands that the BITU has dissociated itself from the seven-day ultimatum issued on the Prime Minister. It is understood that the union last week documented its objections to three points in the ultimatum to the Prime Minister.

Informed sources say that the BITU will shortly call its own delegates meeting to brief the membership on developments emerging from the Heroes Park meeting of June 23 to last week when the ultimatum was served.

Nonetheless, Mr. Clive Dobson of the NWU said yesterday that the Solidarity Alliance would still operate within the seven-day ultimatum "if nothing happens between now and then."

He said that the unions would be holding talks with the Minister of the Public Service, the Hon. Errol Anderson, on the questions of redundancy and wage demands.

Stone on Government's Aims

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 15 Jul 85 p 14

[Article by Carl Stone]

[Text] I find it quite amazing that a JLP Cabinet which boasts among its membership three outstanding union leaders (Shearer, Charles and Anderson) should be in a situation where it is provoking a fight with organised labour.

In other countries where political parties have strong union connections, it usually is the case that they are able to sustain stable labour relations or channels of dialogue and communication which set the framework for finding compromises even on difficult labour matters.

What is taking place on the labour front is unprecedented in Jamaica or the Caribbean in that a labour linked political party is seeking to emasculate and carry a political fight to organised labour.

The issue at stake involved more than questions relating to lay-offs and wage increases. The contemptuous treatment of the labour leaders, the manipulation of the BITU by the government, the unapologetic strike breaking tactics and the effort to fire a whole fire service and a large section of the JPS workers for having the temerity to support a general strike are more akin

Ronald Reagan, Margaret Thatcher, General Pinochet and sundry right wing governments than to politics associated with governments with an organised labour party connection.

It must now be concluded that the pro-labour BITU influences in the JOP have been devoured totally by the hard line monetarist political position of the JLP's business oriented leadership led by Mr Seaga. IMF, World Bank and Reaganite influences might have played a major role in this metamorphosis of the JLP but I don't think so. Strong voices among our local conservatives have long advocated the emasculation of our labour movement.

Mr Wilmot Perkins should now be willing (even partially) to make his peace with Mr Seaga as this was certainly one of the changes he strongly advocated as necessary to sanitise the economy for development.

Paradox

The paradox is that organised labour has become considerably more docile than it was in the 1970's when Manley was in power and bent over backwards to accommodate union pressures.

Manley had the same budgetary constraints Seaga has to cope with but he tried instead to engage the unions in extensive dialogue rather than to use the big stick of confrontation. In that period the IMF representative Mr Omar Albertelli both took the trouble to talk to the unions and was even willing to adjust the wage guidelines in response to union pressures. In spite of this, work stoppages and strikes increased considerably in the Manley period between the early and later years of the 1970's. Similarly, the level of labour disputes also rose dramatically over that period.

Perhaps Mr Seaga concluded that this approach had to be changed to a more hard line treatment of labour.

Mr Seaga has largely ignored the trade unions since he came to power but in spite of this strikes and work stoppages have declined as can be seen below. Organised labour, in my view, has encouraged the hard line approach of Mr Seaga by becoming more docile in a period of severe hardships, thereby giving the impression that the government could simply take them for granted without any costs.

Number of work stoppages: 1979 (182), 1980 (144), 1981 (144), 1982 (142), 1983 (90), 1984 (63).

Events such as the laying off of public sector workers and the shutting down of local government have been taking place without any response from organised labour prior to the recent general strike.

It seems to have been concluded by the government that the unions had become a paper tiger incapable of biting.

What we need

Further confrontation between the unions and the government cannot produce any victories for either side. What we need is a climate within which the tensions can be de-escalated and a framework established for dialogue. Punitive measures against firemen and JPS workers make that prospect quite impossible. Instead it guarantees that the union leaders are going to be pushed again in the direction of

shutting down key areas of the economy.

No government that hopes to achieve economic recovery can seriously believe that the road towards that can be paved by alienating the working class and establishing a reputation for attempting to crush the labour movement.

Jamaica is not Singapore nor South Korea. Any sustained attempt to crush the labour movement here is going to end up in a nightmare of political unrest. But perhaps there is someone somewhere who might like that as a cover to introduce anti-democratic measures into our politics. I hope not.

Mr. Seaga's refusal to meet with the union leaders is not acceptable nor is it acceptable to tell the unions to talk to Mr. Anderson, the Minister of the Public Service. Mr. Seaga is the man who controls the purse strings and he must be the one to talk to the unions.

To be sure, the country's economic situation and the terms of the IMF agreement as well as the huge debt payments being made leave little room to accommodate union demands. But there is no situation where options are so restricted that some accommodation or small adjustment is not possible. To fail to budge at all from the position outlined in his budget speech is to imply that organised labour is too weak, puny and powerless to merit any accommodation by the PM or any adjustment.

In many other countries labour pressures have resulted in substantial changes in austerity measures or adjustments in pay offers even under IMF loan conditions. Layoffs may be non-negotiable but some modest increases in the wage offer would be enough to pacify the labour movement, depending on how its done and whether sincere efforts are made to recognise the union leaders and the cause they represent and to take them fully into the government's confidence....

A major stumbling block is the belief by Mr. Seaga and those who advise him that the labour movement is being manipulated by the PNP. Perhaps what we need is a three-way dialogue between government, unions and political opposition to remove the political roadblocks so that a new climate of mutual trust can be established as a framework for mutual accommodation.

The silent Mr. Shearer could help considerably in moving the dialogue in this direction and the fact that he is not lifting a finger to achieve this but instead is permitting the manipulation of the BITU to divide the labour movement suggests a mouthful as to where he stands on these issues. Indeed, the word on the street is that Mr. Shearer is supporting the hard liners on the issues on punishing workers who went on strike. But if the unions allowed that to happen without a fight, they would be abdicating leadership of the labour movement to Dr. Munroe. But perhaps the hard line right wingers would love to see that happen so as to give ideological anti-communist ammunition to their anti-labour guns.

The unions are not unmindful of the economic pressures on the government. Rationality demands that they tailor their demands to fit that reality. The government on the other hand should not use these pressures as an excuse for failing to negotiate in good faith and failing to make some concessions (however small) to win the confidence and support of the labour movement.

Instead of bringing pressure on the Minister of Labour who has been sensibly trying to defuse this labour relations bomb the government would do well to take its cue from Mr. Smith and from Employers Federation leader Emile George who has been wisely advocating conciliation, compromise and mutual accommodation as against war.

Is it ego?

In the same way that private sector-government task forces can be set up to come up with proposals to remove areas of business dissatisfaction over economic policies, why can't the public sector worker representatives be appointed to a task force (including public sector officials) charged to study and come up with some ideas which might permit some improvement in what the government is offering?

Is it an ego thing why our Prime Minister wants to insist that his budget speech reaction to the unions is the final word on the subject? I hope not. If that is not so why can't there be some genuine dialogue which would defuse this potentially explosive situation and the impulse on both sides for war?

Neither unions nor government can win in such a confrontation and the national interest would be seriously jeopardised.

I hope wisdom rather than emotion and ego tripping prevails.

Perhaps citizens of the stature of Senator George, Archbishop Carter, Senator Barnett and a few others should form an *ad hoc* national reconciliation committee and undertake the difficult task of pressuring both sides to enter into purposeful dialogue.

BITU Disaffection

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 16 Jul 85 p 3

[Text]

The Bustamante Industrial Trade Union in a statement yesterday said that it had dissociated itself from the "so-called seven-day ultimatum to the Prime Minister", which was made by five other unions last week, because it did not consider workers' business as a joke.

The statement, signed by the union's Vice-President, Mr. Lascelles Beckford, said:

"The BITU has dissociated itself from the so-called seven-day ultimatum to the Prime Minister, as we take workers' business seriously and not as joke.

"How can an ultimatum be served on someone when they are off the island? How can an ultimatum work when at the expiry date that person is still off the island?

"The BITU supports workers in their desire for increased wages and that there should be meaningful discussions with the unions on the question of redundancy."

Five unions — the NWU, TUC, JUPOPE, UTASP and JALGO — served a seven-day ultimatum on the Prime Minister to meet them by

tomorrow, after Mr. Seaga left the island last week for Japan and other international engagements.

Referring to an article appearing in yesterday's Gleaner under the headline: "Ultimatum To Seaga: Now What?" The union said that certain statements in the article were misleading and mischievous, and in that reply to those "unfair" criticism, it wished to state the following:

"The BITU has always been in the vanguard of workers' struggle, whether it be against the Private Sector or Government. It is nonsensical to consider that the BITU would do anything to hurt the Trade Union Movement in Jamaica of which it is an integral part.

"The BITU's leadership has attended all planning meetings arranged with other trade unions that we have been invited to. In fact, the last such meeting was on Friday 12th inst., when we were present and other unions absent."

He said, however, that the article set out a clear statement from BITU Island Supervisor, Senator Dwight Nelson, on the union's position regarding the impasse with the Government.

Temporary Truce

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 20 Jul 85 p 1

[Text]

Tacit agreement on a 14-day cooling-off period has been reached between the Government and the trade unions following a meeting Thursday with the Minister of the Public Service, the Hon. Errol Anderson, and representatives of the BITU, NWU, TUC, JUPOPE, UTASP and JALGO.

Mr. Anderson told the unions that the Government could not increase the total of \$120-million allotted for improvements in wages and fringe benefits in the public sector, but there was room for negotiating within that amount.

The Minister said that the amount could not be increased because of the financial constraints which faced the Government, nevertheless there was room for negotiation between the unions and the Government within the overall figure.

The meeting was arranged, following an appeal made by him last Friday for a return to the bargaining table to seek a solution to the current impasse between the unions and the Government over pay and fringe benefit improvements and redundancies in the public sector.

It is understood that other meetings have been conducted by Deputy Prime Minister Hugh Shearer with the leadership of the unions with a

view to finding ways out of the impasse. It is anticipated that until Mr. Anderson meets with them again in two weeks ways will be found to defuse the tension which has persisted since the general strike during the last week of June.

On the question of redundancies, the Minister Anderson told the unions that while the Government did not wish to make "one single worker" redundant, there could be no guarantee that the economic situation in the country would not require further lay-offs as part of a programme of holding recurrent expenditure to manageable levels.

A release issued by the Ministry following the meeting also said that: "In response to complaints that there had not been sufficient dialogue with the unions about the redundancy programme, the Minister undertook to look into this aspect and seek the co-operation of all Ministries and Departments to ensure that such redundancies that were unavoidable, were carried out in an orderly and proper fashion and in consultation with the unions affected."

The release also said that the Minister urged the unions to continue the negotiating process and offered to meet with them for more detailed negotiations within a fortnight."

CSO: 3298/932

JAMAICA

ARSON AT HOSPITAL BRINGS CHARGES OF 'TERRORISM'

Minister's Report

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 10 Jul 85 pp 1, 3

[Excerpts]

Minister of Health the Hon. Kenneth Baugh warned yesterday that the country should not fail to condemn acts of terrorism and sabotage, because the more they were tolerated the worse they would become.

The Minister was speaking in the sectoral debate in the House of Representatives, on the fire which was set to the Kingston Public Hospital by arsonists on Monday morning, as well as related acts of sabotage against public equipment during the recent general strike.

He said he had detected "developing in our midst" a new and extreme attitude; a disregard for the sanctity of life and a lack of consideration for services which were essential and critical to sustain life and well-being, graduating to a direct attack on the sick and the helpless as they lay in hospital beds.

"Make no mistake, it is obviously a deliberate action. Two serious fires in a short period of time. In the first instance destroying wards on the compound. People may have been misled into believing that these

wards were outside the compound behind the hospital, but they were wards on the compound in close proximity to wards that were occupied by patients; destroying an old store house, bandages, syringes and needles.

"There have been other attempts. Several attempts, and two nights ago one such attempt was again successful: that while soldiers and police officers were present, a gas bomb was thrown on a ward with patients and nurses thereby causing a fire. Patients had to be hurriedly rescued.

He said that a ward downstairs which was burnt, was recently renovated and reopened, not more than a year and a half ago and converted to be a physiotherapy department, which was a department sadly underprovided over many years.

"It has now graduated to where hospitals are being attacked. Two serious attempts and other failed attempts directed at wards occupied by patients. But, while we condemn these people, at the same time, let us be grateful to those who worked seriously and heroically, ignoring threats to their lives and persons to restore these critical services."

Tightened Security

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 10 Jul 85 pp 1, 3

[Text] Joint Police/Military security measures have been increased at the Kingston Public Hospital and will be maintained in and around the hospital as long as it is considered necessary, the Attorney-General and Minister of National Security and Justice, the Hon Winston Spaulding, said yesterday.

Mr Spaulding in a statement to the House of Representatives, sparked mainly by the burning down of a section of the KPH by arsonists on Monday, said that between June 15 and July 8, 18 major incidents of fire had been reported of which nine, including fire set to two rural police stations, were confirmed by the police to be acts of arson.

A special security task force would be monitoring the situation at the KPH. The burn-out areas would be cleared and suitable lighting put in at appropriate places. Special security operations would also be undertaken.

He said that a search by police following Monday's fire at the KPH recovered an explosive grenade at premises nearby in Matthews Lane. Intensive top level investigations were taking place into the matter.

Mr Spaulding made a special appeal for anyone with information on the fires or any similar incidents to come forward with such information. He said he was notified by telephone of Monday's fire at the KPH at 4 a.m. by the security forces, who informed him that an explosive device was propelled through the air into the hospital compound where it created an explosion and started a fire.

"It was only the alertness of the security forces and their quick reaction and that of the hospital staff and the firemen who were on duty who responded along with JDF personnel, which prevented the entire hospital from being destroyed.

"These recent acts of arson at the KPH are the latest examples of the cold, heartless kind of acts of terrorism and national sabotage to which certain elements are undoubtedly committed.

"These acts are calculated to take human life, hurt people, however much they are suffering and severely rupture the national interest by damaging our utilities and buildings, disrupting our services and dislocating on their way to the Jubilee Hospital and came shortly after the gun-slaying of a KPH porter.

"I recount these facts so that all decent Jamaicans can soberly reflect and help to join hands in stopping this kind of insane destructiveness."

Mr Spaulding said that between June 15 and July eight, 18 major incidents of fire had occurred. Of those, at least nine were confirmed by the police to be the work of arsonists.

The fires he listed were as follows:

--June 15--fire set to the rear of the Stewart Town police station causing slight damage.

--June 20--fire set to Shady Grove police station and a Land Cruiser and kitchen damaged. Bottles with inflammable liquid were found as well as pamphlets on revolutionary activities.

--June 24--a construction equipment company and furniture factory at Norman Road, Kingston 16.

--June 25--Gordon Ward at the KPH; the High Power Battery Company, 2b Derrymore Road; and a railway bridge at Porus, Manchester as well as 10 railway sleepers at Trinity District in the same parish.

--June 26--the St. Andrew Jaycees headquarters at Derrymore Road, St Andrew; and, the Mile Gully All-Age School.

June 27--dwelling house at 24 Hillcrest Avenue, St Andrew.

--June 28--Shell gas station at Three Miles, St Andrew, which was set on fire after the petrol hose was cut.

--June 29--The Parish Council's office at Chapelton, Clarendon, which was completely destroyed and damage done to next door premises; a dwelling house at Jones Pen, St Catherine.

--July 1--the Constant Spring Post Office, St Andrew, completely destroyed; dwelling house at 74 Waltham Park Road completely destroyed.

--July 2--dwelling house at Content, St Mary, which was com- [words illegible]

--July 3--dwelling house at 20 Ashoka Road, Kingston 11; bar and premises at Curratoe Hill, Clarendon.

--July 8--the Lower and Upper Reittie Wards at KPH completely destroyed by fire.

"Mr Speaker, it will be observed that the acts of arson included attempts to burn down two police stations. Can any objective person doubt what these acts are about?

"When we add these to the burning down of the Butterkist Factory on the 28th day of May, putting 100 persons out of work and seriously damaging our foreign exchange earnings, we have the most dramatic manifestation of an attitude bent on national self-destruction. I have stated and will repeat it until it is understood that only the combined response and involvement of the Jamaican people can stop these acts."

He commended the security forces for their alertness and quick action on the occasions of the two fires at the KPH. The close proximity of the hospital to nearby buildings made it vulnerable to attacks from wrongdoers in the neighbourhood. The records revealed that the area surrounding the hospital was one in which there had been a number of serious crimes committed, whether political or otherwise.

"The joint police and military security measures at the KPH have been increased and will be maintained in and around the hospital as long as it is considered necessary. In addition, the burn-out areas will be cleared and suitable lighting will be put in appropriate places, among other things. Special security operations will also be undertaken, since these activities, although taking place there, are not isolated from other activities elsewhere. A special task force will be monitoring the situation.

"I make a very special appeal for anyone with information on this or similar incidents to come forward with such information. The life or interest which could be protected could be anyone of us, a relative, loved one or friend. Fires and sabotage can [words illegible].

GLEANER Skepticism

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 11 Jul 85 p 8

[Text]

The Minister of National Security in his statement to Parliament on Tuesday elevated the circumstances of two arson attacks on the Kingston Public Hospital to some pattern of "national sabotage and terrorism." Indeed he went so far as to list what he said were 18 major incidents of fires, of which at least nine had been confirmed by the Police to be the work of arsonists.

The 18 fires listed by the Minister took place between mid-June and early this month. Most of them were in Kingston and St. Andrew and the others in five other parishes — St. Catherine, Clarendon, St. Mary, Manchester and Trelawny. Of the nine cases deemed to be arson two were attempts to burn down police stations; two were attacks on the KPH; three were against business places — gas station, bar, and battery company; one destroyed the St. Andrew Jaycees headquarters at Derrymore Road; and in Man-

chester arsonists set fire to a railway bridge in Porus and to ten railway sleepers at Trinity District.

We presume that it is principally from this catalogue that Mr. Spaulding deduces some deeper plot, as he points specifically to the attacks on two police stations. But when he also adds to the list the burning down on May 28 of the Butterkist factory as a "manifestation of an attitude bent on national self-destruction" we begin to wonder; for it was also on Tuesday that the PIC released the information that an ex-employee of the factory had been arrested and charged with arson.

The Minister, of course, has the advantage of more information than is available to the general public. But we feel that the use of emotive terms may alarm rather than alert the public the Minister seeks to serve and from which he asks support in the interest of national security.

JLP Alarm

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 16 Jul 85 p 3

[Text]

The Jamaica Labour Party has expressed "concern, alarm and outrage" at what it said were several recent acts of sabotage aimed at "demoralising and destabilising the society, retarding economic recovery, and... endangering the lives of the sick and elderly."

In a statement signed by General Secretary Ryan Peralto the JLP cited two fires set by arsonists at the Kingston Public Hospital; fires set at three police stations at Llundas Vale, Stewart

Town and Shady Grove; the Parish Council office at Chapelton; and a railway bridge at Porus.

The statement said fires had also been set at the new coffee project in the Blue Mountains, a factory complex at Norman Road and a gas station at Spanish Town Road.

"The similarity of circumstances and timing with which the recent acts of sabotage were carried out suggest that they were deliberately and carefully planned, and executed with precision and boldness for the specific purpose of terrorising the country," the statement said.

New Incidents

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Jul 85 pp 1, 3

[Excerpts]

FOR the fifth time in four weeks fire was set at the Kingston Public Hospital at about 3.40 a.m. yesterday. In addition to major fires on June 28 and July 8, hospital sources said two other small fires, which had not been publicised, took place prior to the one yesterday.

Yesterday's fires occurred in two major sections of the hospital — the Operating Theatre and

the Radiography Department — and are suspected to be the work of arsonists, hospital sources said.

Reports are that at about 3.40 yesterday morning, while the security forces were changing patrols, an alarm was made that there was a fire on the first floor of the hospital.

A bundle of soiled linen from the Operating Theatre had been lit on the floor of the corridor outside the Theatre, and a cabinet storing old X-ray records about two chains away on the same floor was also set ablaze.

The Fire Brigade was summoned and three fire units manned by soldiers and firemen sped to the scene and extinguished the fires.

Health Minister, Dr. Kenneth Baugh, said that action was being taken to improve the security at the hospital. Specific measures to secure certain areas and to reduce the number of problem areas in use at night, were also to be implemented. "After 5 p.m. some areas will be out of bounds," Dr. Baugh said.

He said other measures pertaining to an increase in lighted areas, higher walls and the demolition of the old stone house that was gutted by fire last month would be expedited. Contact had been made with contractors to clean up many of the burnt-out areas on the hospital grounds.

When asked about the future of the Physiotherapy Department which was previously affected by fire, Dr. Baugh said that the ministry was examining the possibility of locating the department at the Victoria Jubilee Hospital. General routine care was being carried out by the department but some specific areas had been affected because of loss of equipment.

The Commissioner of Police, Mr. Herman Ricketts, has ordered top level investigations into yesterday's fires.

According to hospital sources, some 190 workers who were laid off at the hospital recently and who had not received redundancy pay still had access to the institution by virtue of holding valid identification cards.

Fire on Monday, July 8, destroyed the Upper Reitti Ward and the Physiotherapy Department of the hospital while on June 28 an old building used as a storehouse and an abandoned ward were burnt down.

CSO: 3298/933

JAMAICA

SPAULDING NOTES SUCCESSES IN WAR ON DRUG TRAFFICKING

FL312014 Bridgetown CANA in English 1831 GMT 31 Jul 85

[Text] Kingston, July 31--Jamaica plans to further tighten laws governing the use of illegal drugs in its continuing campaign against the drug trade.

Attorney General and National Security Minister Winston Spaulding told the House of Representatives yesterday that laws to increase penalties for possession of drugs, such as marijuana and cocaine, will soon be tabled in the House.

According to Spaulding, the recently amended Civil Aviation Act, which imposes heavy fines on pilots and aircraft owners who violate the nation's airspace and ports of entry, has been working well, but there is need for further tightening of the law to stamp out the trade, particularly at the local level.

He told the House that intelligence reports indicate that there has been a significant increase in the movement of South American cocaine, and that the country is now an important transshipment port for the U.S.-bound drug.

In support of his argument in the House, Spaulding said that in 1984 there were 72 cases involving cocaine, with a total of 807 pounds involved. However, in 1985 up to the time of his statement, there were 54 cases involving 826 pounds of cocaine.

In respect to marijuana, in 1979, 179 acres were destroyed, in 1984 it moved to 1,091 acres and so far in 1985, 1,712 acres.

In the six-month period January to June of this year, 31 airstrips were destroyed, with seven being destroyed for a second time in the period, six boats and 13 light aircraft were seized, and 1,877 people charged under the Dangerous Drugs Act.

Spaulding said that because some Americans have been behaving as if Jamaicans were the only culprits in the drug trade, he has encouraged them to do here what they have been doing in Colombia--trap the drug traders with undercover work.

CSO: 3298/925

JAMAICA

DEMONSTRATORS CALL FOR RELEASE OF 12 IN GANJA CASE

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 20 Jul 85 p 1

[Text]

Traffic came to a halt on Barnett Street in Montego Bay on Wednesday evening as over 200 placard-bearing demonstrators blocked the road in protest against the conviction of 12 men on ganja charges in the Montego Bay Resident Magistrate's Court earlier that day.

The police reported that at about 6 o'clock the demonstrators converged in front of the Montego Bay Police Station chanting slogans calling for the release of the 12 men convicted in connection with nearly 10,000 lb. of ganja seized off the Montego Freeport in the early hours of January 6.

A chaotic scene developed as motorists honked their horns demanding clearance of the road while the demonstrators stood their ground

and continued their chanting to "Free up the ganja men".

They displayed placards reading, "Legalise it," "Duggo a wi hero," "Down with apartheid" and "Jamaica is a little South Africa."

The crowd demonstrated for about half an hour before they were dispersed by the police.

Before this, one of the demonstrators, Marilyn McIntyre, unemployed of a Montego Bay address, was taken out of the gathering and arrested on a bench warrant.

The police reported that McIntyre had failed to appear in the Montego Bay R.M. Court previously to answer charges of malicious destruction of property and the warrant was issued.

No arrests were made in connection with the demonstration itself.

CSO: 3298/934

JAMAICA

BRIEFS

BREAD PRICE HIKE--The price of a two pound loaf of bread has been increased to \$3.40 effective today, moving from \$3.25. The new price is 10 cents less than what the bakers had requested in their application for an increase. Announcement of the hike was made in the House of Representatives last night by the Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, the Hon Karl Samuda. Mr Samuda's announcement followed an appeal on the motion for adjournment by Member of Parliament for South St Andrew, Mr Earl Spencer to hold any increase in the price of bread to a minimum; and that such an increase should be granted with regard to wage negotiations between the Government and public sector employees. Mr Spencer was supported by Member of Parliament for South West St Andrew, Mr Christopher Rose who called for a freeze of price increases on every basic commodity for the next three months. According to Mr Samuda, as long as the dollar continued to decline the threat of price increases became real every day. "We have to face that reality as bitter the medicine may be," he said. [Excerpt] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 17 Jul 85 pp 1, 3]

COOKING OIL PRICE CUT--A reduction by 87 cents per half pint has been effected in the price of Puritan refined coconut oil by Seprod Limited, producers of this product. With the reduction, the retail price of a half pint of Puritan oil has moved from \$3.35 to \$2.48. Seprod has also cut the price of Paragon unrefined oil by 86 cents per half pint. As a result, Paragon now retails for \$2.44 per half pint instead of \$3.30. [Excerpt] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 18 Jul 85 p 1]

CSO: 3298/934

MEXICO

CITIZENS POLLED ON ECONOMIC CRISIS, JULY ELECTIONS

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 30 Jun, 1 Jul 85

["Minisurvey" by Adip Sabag, presenting results of polling carried out in Federal District by Mexican Public Opinion Institute, between 30 May and 2 June 1985. One thousand, one hundred and eleven persons over 18 years of age were interviewed at their homes; they were selected in accordance with methods of random selection. Reliability is 95 percent with 3 percent error considered acceptable, taking into consideration the most unfavorable circumstances where nothing is known of the population group (50-50).]

[30 Jun 85 p 4-A]

[Text] When a public official states that the country is getting over the crisis, you:

Think he is lying	88%
Think he is telling the truth	11%
No answer	<u>1%</u>
	100%

[1 Jul 85 p 4-A]

[Text] You think that the results of the July elections:

Will be genuine	13%
Will be false	55%
No answer - don't know	<u>32%</u>
	100%

7717
CSO: 3248/458

MEXICO

NORTHERN BISHOP ASSERTS ABSENCE OF DEMOCRACY, ATTACKS PRI

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 5 Jul 85 p 27-A

[Article by Antonio Garza Morales]

[Text] Chihuahua, Chih., 4 Jul--After calling the Mexican political system "a totalitarian and prepotent democracy," the bishop of Ciudad Juarez, Monsignor Manuel Talamas Camandari, demanded that the civil right to political participation be returned to the Catholic clergy because "it is part of the natural law and the proclamation of the Universal Rights of Man."

Interviewed in the airport of this capital, Talamas Camandari stated that it is just that priests "have the same basic rights, whatever our political conviction and ideology."

He exclaimed: "We are also Mexicans!"

He said that Mexico boasts internationally that it respects human rights but it is violating them with political discrimination because "we priests do not have the right to participate and vote."

In this exclusive interview, he reported that 8 days ago "instructions from higher up cancelled two radio programs because he participated in the broadcasts in Ciudad Juarez." He asked: "Isn't this a violation of freedom of expression?"

He stated that there is no democracy in Mexico because the president, the senators, the governors, the federal deputies--except for one--the local deputies, the municipal presidents--except for some 25 of the more than 2,000 in the country--are all from the official party "which has unlimited budgetary resources."

"Democracy, as the system is understood, is for the multimember district federal deputies to go talk to each other, some 100 from other parties compared to 299 from the PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party]."

He repeated: "What democracy?"

Talamas Camandari has distinguished himself as one of the leaders of the Catholic clergy who resolutely and publicly discusses national affairs. He stated that the official party pressures the voters.

"Can You Defend the PRI to God?"

He stated that for some time he has had proof that the PRI is pressuring the voters to vote for its candidates in the elections next Sunday.

He did not want to give names so as not to hurt his informants. However, he revealed that "one professor told him that they demanded that his union vote for the PRI candidate for federal deputy next Sunday. Otherwise, they would send him to a job in the mountains."

He cited cases of employees of the federal and state government who are pressured and intimidated by officials to vote for the official party. "That is not democracy."

"I would be the first to recognize a PRI victory if it was won under clear civic conditions, without intimidation."

A person who joined in on the interview asked him, if the PRI wins, "isn't it really because it represents the majority?" Bishop Talamas Camandari became angry and answered this spontaneous interrogator:

"Can you in good conscience defend the PRI to God?"

Wrong Campaign

Talamas Camandari denied that he is anti-Mexican. On the contrary, he said: "I am proudly Mexican." However, he lamented "how the campaigns have been carried out. They do not educate the people. Every campaign should be a lesson in civics."

He said: "There is no respect between parties or between citizens.

"There is no place where the truth is spoken instead of slander which, in some cases, is very serious and distorts awareness and truth.

"The political parties trade threats, some sell out the government and others call them antinationalist. We are all Mexicans and we all want to fight for Mexico based on the existing options to resolve national problems.

"In my humble opinion, the way this campaign has been carried out has generated a large number of people manipulated by pressures that even become threats--I have direct testimony--and a large number of bitter people who might end up committing violence."

He said: "There is a bombardment of unrealistic political messages. Some distort civic awareness and contradict human principles."

The bishop said: "As a Mexican, I feel obliged to say that just as distorted shoes distort feet, a totalitarian democracy like ours distorts the awareness of the citizens."

All Vote

The bishop of Ciudad Juarez made an appeal for all citizens to participate in the elections next Sunday.

However, he noted: "The vote must be a reasoned action with absolute freedom, without intimidation, without threats. Then victory must be recognized as the will of the citizens."

Finally, he commented that he is against violence and hopes that the elections are held quietly.

7717

CSO: 3248/458

29 August 1985

MEXICO

RECORD DECLINE IN COMMERCIAL BANKING SECTOR REGISTERED

Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 18 Jul 85 pp 1, 9

[Article by Alberto Aguilar]

[Text] Financial uncertainty and speculation brought about a fall in deposits attracted to the commercial banking sector in June of 70 percent in real terms compared with the same month last year. This meant that the balance of savings achieved, amounting to 1.115 trillion pesos in the first half of the year, suffered a real decline of 41 percent compared with the 1984 figure. According to Bank of Mexico data, savings attracted to the general banking system this June - 103.8 billion pesos - is the lowest amount registered since September 1983 - when it was 93 billion pesos - and shows a nominal reduction of 50 percent compared with the savings attracted in May, which came to 215 billion pesos.

Experts who were consulted said that the decline in the amount attracted to the general banking system in the first semester means that the missing funds have in fact been transferred to alternative investments, among them dollars, Petrobonos [PEMEX oil bonds], and Cetes [Mexican Treasury Certificates], these last handled by stock brokerage houses, which have attracted increasing funds in recent months. Up to 5 July, holdings of Cetes in the hands of the public, businesses and investment companies came to a total of 228 billion pesos, a figure 95.3 percent higher than that of December 1984. This week another 290 billion peso issue was marketed, with a yield of 76.21 percent for a 91-day term and 71.16 percent for 20 days.

The balance of 1.115 trillion pesos attracted during the semester was composed of a monthly average of 185.8 billion pesos. April was in fact the best month, with 254 billion pesos, followed by March with 224 billion and May with 215 billion pesos. June was the worst month, together with January, when savings attracted came to 190 billion pesos.

The 1.115 trillion savings attracted by the general banking system in the first semester of this year is scarcely a third of the goal of 3.5 trillion pesos that the financial authorities had set themselves for this year. An estimate put out by the banks of 2.7 trillion pesos would imply that in the second semester funds amounting to 584 billion pesos will be obtained, that is to say 264 billion pesos per month.

The experts consulted said that even achieving the more conservative goal is still difficult for the general banking system, in view of prevailing financial conditions dominated by uncertainty and foreign exchange speculation. They added that precisely these features have become the basic factors that have discouraged the flow of funds to the banks.

They opined too that the probable need to increase bank interest rates should also not be thought of as a stimulus for savings, since in this area discouragement is slowly taking hold and preventing a reaction from the investing public.

As regards the trend in Cetes holdings, they said this is a logical development since people are well aware of the real rate of return, and also opt for alternatives that offer liquidity, none of which are handled by the banking system, since it has in fact no secondary market.

The 103.8 billion pesos attracted to the banking system in June represented a decline of 51.8 percent in nominal terms, but subtracting inflation, that is to say obtaining the real increase or decrease, the decline is close to 70 percent. As regards the balance in the January-June period, the nominal decline was barely 9 percent but at constant prices it came to 41 percent.

Financing Granted by the Commercial Banking System

As regards the financing provided by the commercial banking system in June this year, this came to 110 billion pesos, an amount that in nominal terms represents a 28 percent decline from the same month last year. However, deflating the figure, that is stripping it of inflation, there was a real decrease of 53 percent.

With the funds distributed by the general banking system last month to businesses and individuals, the balance of credit granted amounted to 638 billion pesos in the semester, which compared with the figure for the same period last year indicates a nominal advance of 9.7 percent but a real decrease of 28.5 percent. Once again, the real figure was obtained by subtracting inflation from the cumulative figure.

The experts said that a large part of the reduced vigor of lending in "the first semester by the banks was due to the monetary regulation measures that were taken, among them the issue of a second monetary regulation bond issue of 250 billion pesos, which limited liquidity and the availability of funds for lending."

They pointed out, however, that foreign exchange worries were another cause preventing greater lending by the commercial banks, since this variable limited the inflow of funds and indirectly the resources available to consolidate various investment projects.

Another cause of the lower bank lending during the first half of the year, in contrast to the pace of the economy in the same period, was the interest rates charged for lendable funds, which to some extent make prohibitive the access to credit for some industrialists.

Finally, it should be pointed out that the financing balance of 638 billion pesos registered in the first half of the year was composed of credits for 334 billion pesos granted by the banking system in May, 116 billion pesos in March and 103 billion pesos in February. April and January were the months with lowest financing levels, with monthly figures of 20 billion and 54 billion pesos respectively.

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CSO: 3248/457

MEXICO

BRIEFS

IMMIGRATION SERVICE PERSONNEL SHAKEUP--The new general director of immigration services of the Interior Secretariat, Jose Ortiz Arana, began a purge of the top personnel in order to eliminate corruption and mistakes that hinder the administrative efficiency of this branch. It was learned unofficially that the following are being investigated: Manuel de Jesus Santizo Rincon, assistant director of immigration; Antonio Ramirez Barreto, head of the legal department; Adolfo Simon, delegate at the Mexico City International Airport; Fernando Saldana, chief of documentation; and Carlos Alarcon y Alarcon, chief of immigration. It was also reported that there will be changes in several more cities like Tijuana, Mexicali, Guadalajara, Acapulco and others in the southeast. There was unusual movement in this branch of the Interior Secretariat yesterday since lower officials decided, in many cases, not to show up at work after learning that their chiefs had been asked to resign. Removal of officials began immediately after Ortiz Arana took office. He named Antonio Montoya to replace Santizo Rincon and Luis Dosamantes as the head of the legal department. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 11 Jul 85 pp 5-A, 28-A] 7717

CSO: 3248/458

NICARAGUA

LOWERED INCOME TAX CONTRIBUTIONS EXPLAINED

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 9 Jul 85 p 8

[Text] About 15,000 professionals and technicians will stop making income tax [IR] contributions under the new IR collection ceiling which has been raised from 100,000 to 250,000 cordobas per year.

Finance Minister William Hupper said that this measure means the annual loss of 77 million cordobas.

However, he pointed out that professionals are registering as required by law. Some 872 have registered, as have 442 peddlers. Up to now, peddlers have made IR contributions of about 56 million cordobas.

Last year, the ceiling was still 60,000 cordobas; however, beginning in January 1985 it was raised to 100,000.

Beginning with the new regulation, persons earning [monthly] salaries of 22,600 cordobas will pay taxes. They will pay the sum of 1,272 cordobas in taxes, which represents only 1.2 percent [as published].

Previously, on the other hand, taxpayers contributed about 10 percent. Those who earn 30,000 cordobas per moth will pay 10,600 cordobas per year.

Hupper indicated that current taxes are much lower than those paid up to June 1985. He said that in accordance with the previous regulation even laborers paid taxes on annual income.

Freddy Cruz, president of the Heroes and Martyrs CONAPRO [National Confederation of Professional Associations], said that the Ministry of Finance measure is a quick response to the request made by professionals and technicians on this subject.

Small Businesses, Tips

Hupper said that projected collections for 1985 total 4.1 billion cordobas and that the state treasury already has collected 500 million cordobas.

He said that in addition to the new registrations of liberal professionals and peddlers, tax auditors have been assigned to 11 departments to study all kinds of businesses operating there for which there are no official registries of annual incomes.

"On the basis of this study, application will be made of the estimated income tax law, which was already on the books when we started to apply it a short time ago," he said.

He revealed that on the basis of investigations some restaurants and businesses are recording and maintaining entries on tips, while others do not know how they are distributed and some do not keep a record of any kind.

COMPARATIVE TABLE SHOWING TAXATION BEFORE SNOTS¹ AND AFTER
APPLICATION OF THE NEW DEDUCTION

PERIOD: 1982-1983				PERIOD: 1985-1986			
<u>MO.</u> <u>SALARY</u>	<u>ANNUAL</u> <u>SALARY</u>	<u>INCOME</u> <u>TAX</u>	<u>% OF</u> <u>INC.</u>	<u>MO.</u> <u>SALARY</u>	<u>ANNUAL</u> <u>SALARY</u>	<u>INCOME</u> <u>TAX</u>	<u>% OF</u> <u>INC.</u>
5,500	66,000	360	0.5	17,200	206,200	--	--
6,700	80,400	1,224	1.5	20,800	249,600	--	--
7,500	90,000	1,800	2.0	22,600	271,200	1,272	0.5
8,500	102,000	2,560	2.5	25,300	303,600	3,560	1.2
10,000	120,000	4,200	3.5	28,000	336,000	7,120	2.1
20,000	240,000	25,750	10.7	30,000	360,000	10,600	3.0
30,000	360,000	64,650	18.0	30,000	360,000	10,600	3.0

This comparative table shows how annual income taxes were applied and how they are now applied with a ceiling of 250,000 cordobas.

1 National System of Regulation of Work and Salaries

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CSO: 3248/463

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA SWEARS IN NEW OFFICIALS OF HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 28 Jun 85 p 12

[Excerpts] Yesterday, Commander Daniel Ortega, president of the republic, stated that Nicaragua ratifies respect for human rights and that the government will continue its efforts to defend them. He made these statements during the swearing-in ceremony of Dr Plutarco Anduray, commissioner general of the National Commission for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights [CNPPDH].

Ortega added that the revolutionary government is fully disposed to listen to critical comments with a view to overcoming problems which still persist in the country in the sector of human rights application.

As Dr Anduray, the new commissioner of the CNPPDH, took his oath of office he said, "The repeated, sustained and sadistic violation of national and international laws makes Ronald Reagan the supreme enemy of human rights."

Later, when members of the CNPPDH were questioned about statements made in an AP wire from Washington to the effect that the Inter-American Human Rights Commission had withdrawn from the talks between the Miskitos and the Government of Nicaragua, they expressed surprise and said that this would be a contradiction, as almost all the demands had been met and those pending are being discussed.

Ortega went on to say that since the beginning of the revolution the defense of human rights had been basic but that if inappropriate measures had been taken, the commission should take part in an investigation of them.

For his part, Plutarco Anduray said that he hopes the Contadora process will be a way to find peace and that the commission will fight for self-determination and national sovereignty as the "maximum expression of the human rights of of free men."

He added that he hopes for and has confidence in the input of the people, from those running the government as well as from the rest of the citizens. "We believe that the human rights effort is the task of everyone," he concluded.

The following comrades also took their oath of office before the president of the republic as members of the Human Rights Commission: Miguel Angel Aviles Carranza, Rodolfo Tapia Molina, Octavio Caldera Noguera, Horacio Fernandez Raudez, Drs Cesar Amador Kuhl, Gonzalo Ramirez Morales, Ramiro Guevara Rios, Sister Maria Harmann Feeney and Rita Delia Casco Montenegro.

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CSO: 3248/463

NICARAGUA

COPY OF JUDGES' EXAMINATION PUBLISHED

Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 2 Jul 85 p 2

[Text] Everywhere a Nicaraguan looks, he sees Marxism-Leninism being implanted. In the children, police, soldiers, priests, sleepless workers, impoverished peasants---and also in the justice sector. Because now in order to be a judge, one has to study Marxism. But what about laws? This time they may have gone too far!

A candidate for the position of judge sent us a copy of the examination questions one has to be able to answer. As the reader reviews the questions he should be aware that the candidate for this brainwashing is Dr Walter Antillon, who is not a Nicaraguan but is a very successful jurist in the field of international law. With these examinations--we all know how they are to be answered--it is expected that the indoctrination of the judges in Region IV will be accomplished.

According to the author of this brilliant pilot plan, that is how the "transformation of the judicial branch" will be brought about.

The transformation does not mean that we will have good and sound justice, that there will be adherence to the laws, that a judge will not be guided by partiality (or party considerations) but rather by equanimity; that he will not be guided or have his eyes clouded by Marxism but rather that he will be enlightened by Christian respect for man and his rights...but...
Final Course Exam for Local Judges:

Battery "A"

1. Explain the terms idealism and materialism.
2. Define agnosticism and its connection with religion.
3. Can matter exist beyond space and time? Explain.
4. When and why did Marxist philosophy emerge?
5. Define the method of production and its structure.

Battery "B"

1. Using the fundamental problem of philosophy as your point of departure, explain philosophical partisanship?
2. Define matter and its connection with the movement.
3. Define social being and social conscience, establishing the relationship between both.
4. When and why did the state, law and the social classes emerge?
5. Of what does the method of dialectic analysis consist?

8143

CSO: 3248/463

NICARAGUA

BRIEFS

SPANISH SOLIDARITY GROUP ARRIVES--Three solidarity-with-Nicaragua brigades of Spanish citizens arrived yesterday morning and are already making preparations to visit various regions of the country, where they will perform voluntary work or school construction and peasant settlements. A group of 18 volunteers arrived from Barcelona; and, we have learned, they will be taken to Matagalpa to help with the construction of a peasant settlement. The volunteers included Rosa Romero and Angel Rueda, who are visiting the country for the first time. Another brigade of 25 volunteers from several cities, such as Madrid and Valencia, we have learned, will possibly devote their energies to the construction of a school somewhere in the First Region. "Most of us are teachers," said Jose Font, a Spanish nurse. "We will be in Nicaragua for approximately 1 month." They clarified that they are paying the cost of their fares and living expenses and that they have also brought with them all the construction materials they will need in the construction work they will perform in Nicaragua in a show of solidarity with the Sandinista Revolution. [Text] [Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 7 Jul 85 p 4] 8143

CSO: 3248/463

PARAGUAY

MOAC PROTESTS EXPULSION OF COLOMBIAN MEMBERS

PY011924 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 1 Aug 85 p 41

[Text] The Catholic Action Workers Movement (MOAC) yesterday issued a communique denouncing the expulsion from the country of three Colombian unionists, who arrived here on 26 July to take part in the sixth continental MOAC meeting, in our capital, in the place called "Betania." Informed of the fact, MOAC press secretary issued the communique explaining that the Colombians Rafael Zapata, Santiago Gonzalez, and Manuel Vargas were expelled from the country on 28 July. They had been jailed by members of the security brigade on 26 July at Asuncion's international airport.

The document says the three jailed men were taken to the Police Narcotics Department and then sent to the Technical Section of the Interior Ministry, after documents related to the Nicaraguan Government were found in their possession. It adds that they remained at the Technical Section until Sunday, 28 July, when they were taken back to the airport and forced to board an airplane that took them to Rio de Janeiro.

Later, Monsignor Mario Melanio Medina, bishop of Benjamin Aceval, remarked in a radio program that the police had taken \$20,000 from the Colombians, who had received the money from the movement in Brazil to finance the MOAC meeting, recognized by the Church.

Official sources yesterday did not report anything about the event or about the charges, publicly made by Monsignor Medina.

CSO: 3348/875

PARAGUAY

BRIEFS

STOLEN CARS WITH ARMY PLATES--Cascavel--Gerson Galiccioli, police superintendent of Foz do Iguacu (638 km southwest of Curitiba, Parana State) reported yesterday that many cars stolen in Brazil could have been taken to Paraguay with official Paraguayan Army license plates. Early on Monday morning, 24 July, on the Friendship Bridge (linking Brazil to Paraguay) the Brazilian federal police detained Paraguayan Sergeant Hector Ramon Cabral Mongelos driving a Santana car stolen a few hours before in Foz do Iguacu, with official Paraguayan Armed Forces license plates. [Excerpt] [Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 24 Jul 85 PY]

CSO: 3348/875

PERU

AYACUCHO PEASANTS TELL COMMISSION OF DISAPPEARANCES

Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 11 Jul 85 p 13

[Text] Ayacucho, Peru, 10 Jul (EFE)--They were the poorest of the poor, silent, defenseless peasants, for the most part illiterate, who came to denounce the disappearance of some close family member before an international commission headed by Nobel Peace Prize winner Adolfo Perez Esquivel.

The commission, composed of 14 persons from various countries, spent 2 days in Ayacucho, with brief visits to the nearby localities of Huanta and Quinua, all in the heart of the Andes.

Its presence in this area, marginated and abandoned to its fate for centuries, was greeted with marches and a single slogan: "They took them away alive, and we want them back alive."

In the Quechua language Ayacucho means "the corner of the dead," and actually, those who have lost their lives in the city or its environs since the Maoist Shining Path group began its armed struggle number in the hundreds.

No one seems to be able to give an exact figure on the number of Peruvians who have fallen victim to Shining Path's violence or to the resulting repression by the armed forces, but in the country's new media the death toll is placed in the neighborhood of 5,000.

Since February, 1983 the area has been under a state of emergency, which means the suspension of certain constitutional guarantees and rule by a political and military command, currently headed by Gen Wilfredo Mori.

Perez Esquivel encouraged the peasants to organize, to break their silence and, above all, to overcome their fear "so that the sinister mechanism of arrest, kidnaping and disappearance will cease to spread throughout Latin America."

In Ayacucho, Huanta and Quinua the commission was witness to a parade as heartbreaking as it was pathetic, which profoundly impressed all the commission members because of the extreme poverty of those who came to make their accusations.

Some women had walked from communities 20 or 30 kilometers distant because they did not have the 3,000 sols (about 25 US cents) to pay the bus fare.

In Ayacucho, about 140 accusations were received in 3 hours, Jose Antonio Martin Pellin, president of the Spanish Human Rights Association, told EFE [Spanish Press Agency].

Members of the commission, working in pairs, took the various testimonies in the city hall.

Men and women waited patiently in line for their turns. Many of them spoke only Quechua and needed an interpreter; many others broke into tears as they presented their cases.

Pregnant women, laden with cares, men accustomed to suffering and silence. Not even when they wept did they raise their voices.

"And everything is against them," a member of the commission told EFE. "Lost in forgotten villages in the Andes, with a different culture, different language--absolutely defenseless."

Their tragedy, with a few variations, is always the same: the disappearance of some close family member of whom they have never heard again, according to the conclusions reported to EFE by various members of the investigating commission.

The circumstances of these disappearances were summed up by the vice rector of the University of Ayacucho, Morote Sanchez, during an academic ceremony held Monday, in the following terms:

"These things usually happen in the early morning hours, when masked individuals in uniform break into a home. There, among beatings and insults, they arrest the person they are seeking and place him in a mobile unit. Nothing is ever heard about him again."

Morote Sanchez explained that the Public Ministry limits itself to making inquiries of the police and of the political and military command in the emergency zone, and that these inquiries remain unanswered or receive a negative response. "So," he said, "the disappearances go on."

It is impossible to say how many have suffered this fate. Prime Minister Luis Percovich maintains that only 27 persons are missing. Amnesty International says there are at least 1,045, and the office of the national attorney general has received 1,200 reports from throughout the country.

However, it is virtually impossible for the accusations to bear any fruit, since the law requires individual identification of the perpetrators of a crime, and these people almost always wear masks.

Not only are there accusations of disappearances, but also of murders. The commission had the opportunity to hear the testimony of Maria Cardenas, sole survivor of a massacre that occurred on 13 November 1983 at Socos.

On that occasion, four "sinchis" (a special antiterrorist group from the Civil Guard) riddled 32 persons with bullets after getting drunk at a wedding celebration to which they had invited themselves.

The authorities named an ad hoc judge, Felex Bautista Barzola, to investigate the case, but he was relieved of this post shortly afterward. Today he is a judge in a court of primary jurisdiction in Huanta, and the "Socos case" has, to all intents and purposes, been filed away.

Huanta is a locality with about 15,000 inhabitants about 50 kilometers from Ayacucho. It can be reached over a dusty, unpaved road, and even the people in Ayacucho say it is a dangerous trip, because "Shining Path operates around there."

"In this affair," a local journalist from "Voice of Huamanga" radio told EFE, "several 'body dumps' have been found, usually at the bottoms of ravines."

Two mass graves containing about 100 bodies were found near Huanta in August, 1984, and on that same date a journalist from LA REPUBLICA, Pablo Ayala, disappeared after entering the marine barracks.

The international commission headed by Adolfo Perez Esquivel arrived with a police escort on the orders of Gen Wilfredo Mori, chief of the area political and military command, who alleged safety reasons.

In Huanta the same scenes took place as at Ayacucho, but with one difference: The accusers were fewer and the presence of police and military much more obvious.

Some policemen from the area also came into the civic center, where the peasants were presenting their accusations, and only when a member of the commission asked them to leave "because they were, by their presence, putting pressure on the families of those who had been arrested," did they agree to leave.

Under these conditions they collected some 30 accusations within an hour, the last one on 7 July, the night before the arrival in the area of the Nobel Peace Prize winner.

A 31-year-old watchmaker, Porfirio Quintero, was arrested by three individuals, two of whom were wearing marine uniforms, Adolfo Perez Esquivel told EFE.

"This is not the way to do things legally and justifiably," he emphasized.

Huanta has been one of the villages most hard-hit in recent times, because it is thought that the Senderistas, weakened in Ayacucho by the actions of the armed forces, are moving northward.

Huanta's attorney general told the international commission that in 3 years some 300 bodies had been discovered; in 1984 337 disappearances were documented, and so far this year there have been 47.

During the last 2 years persons arrested were taken to the municipal stadium, which was reopened for its normal functions last 28 February.

In Quinua, about 40 kilometers from Ayacucho, residents told of the disappearance of 29 persons, and attributed the disappearances as much to Shining Path as to the armed forces.

They say they have organized their own system of self-defense and refused to accept the formation of civil defense groups sponsored by the army which function in other communities.

Very few attribute responsibility for the disappearances to Shining Path, but one peasant who preferred, for reasons of safety, to remain anonymous told EFE that he had three family members who had disappeared.

He asserted that one was taken away by the military and the other two by the Senderistas, but before the commission he made only the first accusation.

Even the most casual observer can appreciate the fact that the residents of the emergency zone, which coincides with the most depressed and underdeveloped area in Peru, are caught between two fires and are the chief victims of a "war" which has been going on now for 5 years.

Senderistas and armed forces threaten them in the same terms: Either you are with us or you are against us. For this reason most of the dead and disappeared are of peasant origin, and that is also why 80 percent of those in prison accused of terrorism are illiterate peasants who speak only Quechua, Carlos Taipe Camps, head of the Peasants Confederation of Peru (CCP), told EFE.

8735

CSO: 3348/831

ARMY MODERNIZING WEAPONS MAINTENANCE

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 14 Jul 85 p A-7

[Text] By means of the War Materiel Service and the aid of technicians and officers trained abroad, the army has for some years now provided electronic maintenance for the Pechora missiles, as well as the Strela, Rocket and Shilka rockets, among other modern weapons.

In like fashion, it is upgrading obsolete armament so much so that many light automatic rifles of Belgian origin, whose manufacture dates back to 1958, have been renovated to the point that they now resemble the weapons purchased of late.

Those two instances show how the army has been making great efforts through the War Materiel Service to perform on its own the maintenance of the costly and sophisticated war materiel it possesses.

To that end, it counts on noncommissioned personnel trained at the Army Technical School and officers graduated from the Chorrillos Military School, many of whom have specialized in Belgium, the USSR and the United States, countries of origin of the acquisitions.

Firing in Simulators

With respect to missiles and rockets, periodic checking of their electronic systems are made by subjecting them to rigid laboratory testing in order to ensure their operational readiness and good working order.

Their effectiveness relative to deployment and the attainment of the objective is also checked, for which purpose instruction and training are carried out in simulators where the flights of warplanes that subsequently become the "target" of the projectiles are imitated.

The so-called minor and major armament maintenance shops are at the Borbones Garrison. Maintenance of rocket launchers, laser and night sights, and instruments essential for night combat is also performed there.

With regard to minor armament, the maintenance, preservation and upgrading of pistols, shotguns, revolvers, light and heavy automatic rifles, machine guns, and machine pistols are carried out.

The 88.9mm rocket launchers and the RPG's, powerful antitank weapons whose projectiles have a range of 1,200-2,000 meters and can pierce 36cm armor, are disassembled and fully repaired in another especially prepared place.

8414

CSO: 3348/832

PERU

STATE ENTERPRISES SALARIES SAID ADDING TO INFLATION

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 14 Jul 85 Dominical p 2

[Text] Aside from the managing role of the state and inasmuch as it has caused justifiable concern in the public mind, we have to refer to the high salaries being paid in almost all the public enterprises.

It is fitting to point out a basic premise. We are not opposed to the adequate compensation that should be received by those who fill posts of great responsibility by reason of their high professional skill, without implying by this that the remuneration be so far removed from national reality and become a privilege that is distressing and offensive to the rest of the professionals and the workers of the country.

We also understand that in other countries, particularly the United States, technicians and professionals at this level receive higher compensation for their services, but we consider that this sort of comparisons are incorrect inasmuch as the levels of our economies are quite different. It could be argued that this is one of the reasons for the flight of our talent, which we lament but not induce as our proposal does not go as far as to excessively and irrationally reduce the salaries now being paid in most of the public enterprises.

In addition to the amount of these remunerations, there have been decrivals of abuse in the advance payment of indemnifications which, in some cases, reach several hundred million sols. It is also known that advances on national holiday and Christmas bonuses are being paid out 5 months ahead of time, and that the so-called selective increases and exceptional bonuses are likewise getting to be exceptionally large.

The acute inflation affecting all of us justifies the demand for higher wages and salaries, but it should not be ground for abuse and excess especially when the meeting of that demand contributes to the acceleration of the inflationary process by increasing public services tariffs, which currently are being raised by intolerable increments in order to meet precisely that bureaucratic voracity.

There is no other alternative than a meticulous examination of what is going on at the public enterprises in this regard. Not only should this kind of

salary increases be immediately restrained, but they have to be brought to the levels that the country can normally defray without raising the cost of the services.

A review should also be requested of wages paid in other organizations being supported by the state in order to eliminate this enormous inequality in salaries.

In light of the serious crisis affecting the country, it is not just nor honest that privileged minorities have a right to abundance, relying for this on the resources that all of us Peruvians generate.

We are certain that the vast majority of beneficiaries of this wage policy will feel at least uncomfortable upon finding out that a general director of any ministry receives a little more than 2 million sols a month, less than \$200, a sum that is lower than that received by the janitor of one of these public enterprises.

A calm effort with understanding and fairness will help to normalize this situation, and we hope that this will be the best way to put an end to something that has caused tension and repudiation.

8414

CSO: 3348/832

PERU

BRIEFS

APRA SECRETARIAL POST SHARED--Alan Garcia, the future president of the republic, was elected and proclaimed president of the PAP [Aprista Party of Peru] yesterday, while the alternating secretaryship of that party will be exercised by Senator Armando Villanueva del Campo and Deputy Luis Negreiros Criado. The designations were made by unanimity and acclamation in the early hours of yesterday in the course of the 15th National Congress of that party, which came to a close by the end of the day. The confirmation of those nominations were made by Hugo Otero during a break in the second plenary session of the event, which was presided over by Alan Garcia in the great hall of the Aprista headquarters early in the afternoon. "They will fill the post jointly," Otero said with respect to Villanueva and Negreiros. The nomination of both candidacies was made by Alan Garcia himself. [Excerpt] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 15 Jul 85 p A-4] 8414

NO MINING HOLDING COMPANIES--The future minister of energy and mines, engineer Wilfredo Huayta, stated last evening that the Aprista Party respects private property and that his work plans for the sector he will head as of next 28 July do not include the creation at any time of mining "holding companies" in the country. He made these comments in a speech at the National Management Conference being held by the IPAE [Peruvian Institute of Business Administration] at the Crillon Convention Center. Huayta said that the PAP [Aprista Party of Peru] has not mentioned at any time, through any of its leaders, including himself, any intention to nationalize private enterprises. On being asked by reporters about several matters connected with the sector he will soon head, Huayta excused himself from commenting since, he said, he is in the process of getting ready to take over the ministry. The future energy and mines minister had previously indicated that the plan of reorganization which his sector will carry out includes the creation of a mining "holding company," as the result of merging Cuajone and Toquepala, in the south of the country, under the name SURMIN-PERU. He also said a similar action would be taken with Bayovar and Michiquillay, in the north, which would become NORMIN-PERU, with the mines in the central portion of the country remaining under the administration of CENTROMIN-PERU [Central Peruvian Mining Enterprise]. [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 5 Jul 85 p A-4] 8735

CSO: 3348/831

ST LUCIA

BRIEFS

LAND FOR FARMERS--Castries, (CANA)--Another 34 rural farmers in St Lucia have been given plots of land in the fertile Roseau valley, just south of Castries, under a lease-purchase scheme aimed at boosting export agriculture. The \$18 million (\$1 EC; 37 cents US) joint undertaking between the St Lucia government, the British-based Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC) and Geest Industries, London marketers of Windward Island bananas, aims to convert more than 1,000 acres into small holdings. The first five farms were leased in 1983 and 36 more last year. The latest 34 to be handed over bring the total number to date to 75. Ultimately, 175 farms will be developed and leased. The farmers will pay for the lands over the 15-year life of the lease, after which they will be eligible to own the plots. Under the terms of the lease, all produce harvested from the farms is sold through the joint venture company, St Lucia Model Farms, and from the profits the company deducts charges for fertiliser, irrigation and insurance which it provides to the farmers. [Text] [Port-of-Spain EXPRESS in English 27 Jul 85 p 10]

CSO: 3298/926

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

MITCHELL SUBMITS FIRST BUDGET; TRADE MEASURES INITIATED

Aid Prospects

FL261556 Bridgetown CANA in English 1942 GMT 26 Jul 85

[By Rickey Singh]

[Excerpts] Kingstown, July 26--St Vincent and the Grenadines Prime Minister James Mitchell is marking the first anniversary of his New Democratic Party (NDP) government with the presentation next week of the administration's second budget in nine months.

Mitchell, who is also minister of finance, has disclosed that his government has received EC75 million dollars in firm commitments from various donor countries and agencies on the basis of plans submitted for its proposed three-year economic development programme.

He said that approximately 78 per cent of the aid requests will be forthcoming from the European Economic Community (EEC), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the Organisation of American States (OAS), Britain, France and Canada.

The Mitchell government is also having discussions with Colombia in keeping with its desire to diversify its trading and economic relations. The prime minister has already held meetings with Colombian investors here and will finalise investment arrangements during an official visit to Colombia scheduled for late August.

Mitchell said that his government was now working on plans to produce at least 10,000 pamphlets for distribution throughout the country on the state of public financing and debt, and also the situation as it existed in the sugar industry when his NDP came to power.

FL310007 Bridgetown CANA in English 2340 GMT 30 Jul 85

[By Michael Findlay]

[Text] Kingstown, July 30--The St Vincent and the Grenadines Government today became the latest Caribbean Community (Caricom) state to introduce some of the provisions of the Nassau understanding, a series of measures to encourage intra-regional trade.

In his budget presented at the opening of a new session of Parliament, Prime Minister James Mitchell announced a 15 per cent increase in duties on imports from non-Caribbean Community (Caricom) countries in keeping with the commitment by regional leaders. Mitchell said goods which could be produced in the region would fall under the increased duty.

This use of tariffs to offer protection to Caricom products was one of the measures agreed on by the Caricom Summit in Nassau last July to revive trade among the 12 member common market, which has been on the decline for three years.

At the summit in Barbados earlier this month, Caricom leaders promised to complete arrangements for full implementation of the Nassau agreement by August 31. Only five countries were said to have done so, even though the implementation date had twice been extended.

The EC164.99 million dollar budget (one EC dollar: 37 cents U.S.) imposed higher taxes on a range of imports, while making it more costly to run vehicles, banks and yachts. At the same time, the government announced income tax and other concessions aimed at stimulating housing and private savings.

Total expenditure is an increase of 9.4 per cent over the 1984/85 figure.

Some 67.07 million dollars of the amount will be spent on capital works, with 97.92 million dollars earmarked for recurrent expenditure.

While capital expenditure in the new fiscal year will increase by 25.7 per cent, there will be a mere 0.5 per cent increase in recurrent expenditure.

The prime minister also announced a 10 per cent increase in the consumption tax on motor vehicles and accessories, with tractors and trailers for use in the agricultural sector exempted.

He introduced a 100 dollar annual fee on operators of video tape rental businesses effective from January 1, as well as increases in the entertainment and telecommunications tax.

Also costing more are entertainment, liquor, savings and deposit banks, and yacht licenses. It has become costlier to operate radio transmitters-receivers.

Mitchell also outlined what he said were new measures designed to stimulate productive investment and economic growth. These include the exemption from personal income tax for a period of 10 years of all income associated with gross rents, mortgage interest and gains or profits accruing from sales associated with an approved housing scheme where the cost of a unit does not exceed 100,000 dollars. Government officials later said this was apparently intended to bolster the housing sector.

Other measures include amendment of the money lending ordinance and the interest levy act to provide incentives to commercial banks and prospective borrowers to stimulate investment and economic activity.

Mitchell said: Consultations were held with the managers of commercial banks and we have arrived at certain general principles with regard to their lending operations.

In light of this, the time is now ripe for the repeal of this legislation (the money lending ordinance). I am therefore taking the first step towards complete repeal of this act by making its provisions totally inapplicable to all loans contracted after today, 30th July 1985.

He added: While the cost of borrowing will now be determined by demand and supply conditions prevailing in the market place instead of being artificially set, government has received assurances from the banking sector that there will be no immediate spiralling of interest rates.

New tax measures are expected to land the government 1.7 million dollars. Mitchell tagged recurrent revenue at 100.4 million dollars.

He said external loans would bring in 36.1 million dollars, external grants over 25 million and domestic borrowing just over 3 million.

The Ministry of Finance, Planning and Development will receive the biggest slice of the budget, a total of 24.8 million dollars or 25.4 per cent, with the Ministry of Education receiving 18.1 million dollars, the Ministry of Communications and Works 16.3 million dollars and the Ministry of Health 13.1 million dollars. The remainder will be shared by the Ministry of Housing, Labour and Community Development and the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Agriculture.

Some 26.7 million dollars of the country's new capital spending will be on energy, representing 39.8 per cent, with agriculture, forestry and fisheries to receive 12.5 million or 18 per cent.

Other substantial allocations of capital will go to transportation, communication and infrastructure (7.2 million dollars), industry and mining (6.5 million dollars), housing (4.4 million dollars), and water and sewerage (3.9 million dollars).

Prime Minister Mitchell said 2.5 million dollars of the total capital expenditure will be met from a recurrent surplus on current account with

the balance coming from external loans and grants and from domestic borrowing.

In a presentation lasting just over two hours, Prime Minister Mitchell also reviewed the economic development of St Vincent and the Grenadines. He noted that the economy grew in real terms at an average of 3.5 per cent, continuing a slow-down that began during 1982 when growth fell from 7.4 per cent to 5.9 per cent.

The fastest growing sectors last year were agriculture, wholesale and retail trade, and transportation, while the manufacturing sector grew by less than one per cent.

Mitchell said that while inflation was reduced by a further 2.1 per cent during last year because of the continued strength of the U.S. dollar and government's policies, the recent fall in strength of the dollar indicated that inflation would probably increase during this year.

The country's trade sector performed favourably during 1984. There was a further fall in the visible trade deficit which amounted to 16 million dollars last year, the lowest since 1978.

This improvement resulted in a strong export performance. Between 1979 and last year the value of imports rose by 65.5 per cent while export earnings increased by 265.4 per cent.

Last year alone, the expenditure on imports rose by 8.1 per cent while export revenue grew by 31.5 per cent. But there has been no change in the country's unemployment situation, which in June 1984 was between 40 and 45 per cent. Mitchell said this was because of the poor performance of the manufacturing sector and the extremely high population growth rate, but he told Parliament his government attached the highest priority to finding ways to solve the problem.

Mitchell said his government was pursuing a strategy of economic growth and development based on increased output and productivity in the productive sectors, particularly in agriculture and industry, while promoting diversification in those sectors.

He also said great emphasis would be placed on exports of goods and services, enhancing the tourism product and intensifying promotion activity, improving and expanding basic social services and reducing the present high rate of population growth.

CSO: 3298/927

SURINAME

BRIEFS

RICE AGREEMENTS SIGNED--Paramaribo, Suriname, 27 Jul (CANA)--Suriname contractors and the European Development Fund (EDF) have signed three agreements for the first phase of a rice development project here. The U.S.\$5.6 million project, which is being financed by EDF, is aimed at promoting agricultural development in Coronie, a coastal district about 100 kilometres west of the capital, Paramaribo. The project entails the construction of polder with its own drainage, irrigation and roadway system, the construction of rice drying and storage facilities and the building of a well-equipped technical centre which will serve to manage the polder and the industrial area and give assistance to farmers. It is estimated that some 210 farmers and their families will benefit from the project when it is completed in three years time. [Text] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1353 GMT 27 Jul 85]

CSO: 3200/51

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

CHAMBERS IN INDIA: GANDHI ACCEPTS INVITATION, PACT SIGNED

FL310207 Bridgetown CANA in English 2357 GMT 30 Jul 85

[Text] Port-of-Spain, July 30--Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has accepted an invitation extended by Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister George Chambers to visit this country at a date to be arranged, according to an External Affairs Ministry statement. The two prime ministers met in New Delhi today on Chambers' final stop on a foreign tour which has also taken him to Britain, South Korea, and Japan.

Meanwhile, External Affairs Minister Errol Mahabir and Indian Minister of State for External Affairs Khurshed Alam Khan today signed an agreement on scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries.

The Indian High Commission in a release issued here said the agreement will include co-operation on the exchange of information, experts, training, and the execution of joint ventures.

The release also said that during today's official discussions, India expressed interest in importing 120,000 tonnes of urea from Trinidad and Tobago on a long-term basis and that Trinidad showed interest in proposals from the Indian officials to set up joint ventures such as hotels in this country.

During the talks, interest was expressed in the field of economic, scientific and technical co-operation between the two countries.

We in Trinidad and Tobago have embarked on our own plans for the ordering of the national framework and mechanisms for the transfer, adaptation and absorption of modern technology in the economic and human development of our people, Errol Mahabir said on the occasion of the signing of the agreement.

One component of this thrust will be the establishment of a science park dedicated to the development of high-technology industries, an area in which India has already achieved remarkable success.

At the regional level of the Caribbean community, we are committed to the formulation of a regional policy and plan in science and technology which seeks to optimise the use of available resources, promote dynamism in

agriculture and industry and improve the region's capacity to acquire technology.

It is therefore logical that in our present emphasis on the development of science and technology as a viable mechanism for progress, we should join forces with your great country.

Later, at a dinner hosted for Chambers, Gandhi called for greater solidarity among developing nations in order that they could withstand the impact of international crises or pressures from the developed world. It is hard, Gandhi said, for developing nations to individually withstand such pressures, but if we stand together we shall be better able to secure our interests.

South-South solidarity will be a good supplement to North-South co-operation, he added.

CSO: 3298/928

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

COOPERATION PACT WITH PRC SIGNED IN BEIJING

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 25 Jul 85 p 15

[Text]

PRIME MINISTER George Chambers has signed an agreement of trade, economic, scientific and technical co-operation with the Chinese Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang.

The agreement was signed on Tuesday last week before the Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister left Beijing for Xi'an, another major Chinese town, as he continued his tour of China, before going on to South Korea.

The Prime Minister was due to leave Seoul for Tokyo yesterday for a four-day stay. Following this he is to visit India.

While in China, Mr. Chambers also paid his respects to the late Mao Zedong, Chinese Communist Party Leader, at the Mao Zedong Memorial Hall. He also laid a wreath at the monument to the People's Heroes at Tianamen Square. On his visits to these and other parts of the country, the Prime Minister was accompanied by the Chinese Minister of Textile Industry, Wu Wenying.

The Prime Minister also visited Shenzhen, one of China's four special economic zones where he and his delegation were briefed by the town's mayor on what had been achieved in building the special economic zone since 1980.

Mr. Chambers paid special tribute to Shenzhen and praised local officials for learning from their experiences and correcting mistakes in the process of building the area.

When in Shenzhen Mr. Chambers visited a plastic sheet factory, a bicycle factory, an electronics factory manufacturing television sets and a fishing village.

Mr. Chambers also visited Guilin in southwest China where he saw a limestone cave and travelled by boat on the Li River. In the town of Guangzhou the party was honoured at a dinner given by the provincial Government.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

COURT ACTION RESTRAINS PUBLICATION OF NEWSPAPER BOMB

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 30 Jul 85 p 1

[Text]

A JUDGMENT delivered by Madame Justice Jean Permanand yesterday has restrained journalist Irwin Sandy from printing, publishing and distributing the "Bomb" newspaper.

The judgment, which was delivered at NIPDEC House, was granted in favour of "Bomb" owner Sat Maharaj and 25 employees who filed the injunction against Sandy two weeks ago.

Sandy, editor of the "Bomb" had himself filed an ex-parte injunction against Sat Maharaj and ten employees of the newspaper on June 29 restraining them from entering the premises of the newspaper at Southern Main Road, Curepe.

That action resulted from an initial incident in June when "Bomb" workers said they were fired for questioning certain transactions regarding the non-payment of NIS and Inland Revenue taxes. They insisted on receiving their severance pay, and refused to leave the "Bomb" until they did, but eventually set up camp opposite.

PRESS DAMAGED

Sandy, however, filed an ex-parte injunction, on June 29 preventing owner Sat Maharaj and ten workers from entering the premises. That injunction was granted by Justice Jim Davis.

In turn, Maharaj and 25 other displaced "Bomb" workers filed their own injunction in the High Court restricting Sandy from entering the newspaper's premises, printing, publishing and/or distributing the "Bomb" and this was granted by Madame Justice Permanand yesterday.

According to Ed Wyn Brant, news editor of the "Bomb," Sandy and "three or four workers" who had

been producing a Bomb newspaper (the displaced workers had also been producing one from premises opposite) have now vacated the paper's offices.

But, he added, the printing press and other vital equipment have been damaged badly.

Brant said the judgment "has been a moral victory" for the workers who filed the injunction, and stated that only one "Bomb" would now be hitting the streets.

Sandy was represented by Mr. Frank Solomon, in association with Miss Amrika Tiwary.

Maharaj and his wife, Indra Maharaj, were represented by Mr. Martin Daly in association with Mr. Alvin Fitzpatrick.

Madame Justice Permanand discharged Sandy's ex-parte injunction on the grounds of non-disclosure of certain material facts in that there was implied term of agreement by which Maharaj had leased the "Bomb" to Sandy that he operate in a proper and businesslike manner.

The Court accepted the argument of Maharaj's counsel that it appeared, arguable that Sandy had broken his agreement with Maharaj by purporting to dismiss the employees on June 28.

Mr. Solomon had contended that under the agreement Sandy was free to produce the "Bomb" as he pleased.

On June 28 a dispute arose between Sandy and his employees who went to Maharaj and asked him to intervene, which he did by taking away the "Bomb."

Sandy went the following day and was successful in getting an ex-parte injunction to restrain Maharaj, his wife and certain employees from entering the "Bomb" newspaper premises.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

SECURITY MINISTER PADMORE TAKES ISSUE WITH ALLIANCE

Comment on Economic Strategies

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 29 Jul 85 p 1

[Text] Government has sought to cushion the population from the harshest consequences of the economic downturn by instituting a number of measures such as policies of adjustment designed to cut down on unnecessary expenditure.

National Security Minister Mr. Overand Padmore told this to members and supporters of the Port-of-Spain North constituency of the ruling People's National Movement at the constituency's 12th annual conference yesterday.

Mr. Padmore, (attributing) some criticisms to opposition politicians, added that the adjustment policies were also designed to safeguard precious foreign reserves, slow the rise in labour costs in an effort to make the country's products more competitive both in the domestic and international markets.

Minister Padmore, who is parliamentary representative for the constituency, told the audience at the Belmont Junior Secondary School:

"A more competitive business environment would be beneficial to consumers and would eliminate what could only be described as obscene business profits."

There remained, he continued, the serious problem of unemployment which must be a prime concern for the national community. The Government, as an employer, had sought to address this by offering very modest wage and salary increases to ensure as far as possible its ability to maintain employment levels.

This was based on the premise that the unemployed paid the ultimate price of adjustment.

Mr. Padmore continued:

"Trade union leaders have a responsibility to understand and explain these trade-offs to their members. Gone are the days when wage and salary

increases, totally unrelated to productivity improvements, can be absorbed without adverse implications for employment levels.

'Foreigners'

"It is a strategy we would expect to see the private sector adopt, for retrenchment must never be the first resort in business adjustment. It becomes even more unacceptable when in resorting to it the provisions of freely negotiated industrial agreements are not honoured.

"That is a serious reflection on the competence of management."

Turning his attention to the political opponents of the PNM, Mr. Padmore claimed there was a kind of recklessness in the manner in which some of these "power hungry elements" pursued the Prime Ministership of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

Without calling his name but obviously referring to Mr. A.N.R. Robinson, Chairman of the Tobago House of Assembly and Political Leader of the National Alliance, Mr. Padmore asked his audience to consider the case of a soi-disant (so-called) leader, contesting an election in Tobago where he was born, calling citizens of this country born on the island of Trinidad "foreigners" during the last THA elections, which the PNM lost.

Mr. Padmore:

"Some of us who were called foreigners--in our own country--are members of the Cabinet of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. Today this soi-disant leader is aspiring to become Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago.

"He must first apologise to the people of Trinidad for the enormity of the insult. How can he expect to be Prime Minister over one million foreigners?

"How can he ever expect to have the allegiance of foreigners, the ninety-seven per cent of us ordinarily resident in Trinidad? Let him apologise."

Attack on Opposition

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 30 Jul 85 p 3

[Text]

THE RULING People's National Movement (PNM) is up against a conspiracy on the part of those who are determined to see the removal of the PNM — at any cost.

The charge was made Sunday evening by National Security Minister Overand Padmore at the party's Port-of-Spain North constituency's 12th annual conference.

Mr. Padmore directed his charge while critically denying a Sunday newspaper (not the "Sunday Guardian") lead story which was headlined "Crime rate worse ever... '85 figure already past last year's"

Minister Padmore, who is the parliamentary representative for the constituency, in winding up the meeting held at the Belmont Junior Secondary School, said the figures were deliberately distorted to create uneasiness in the minds of the population.

"They also distort the figures given by the Assistant Commissioner of Police (Crime) Mr. Ronald Perry so that they can write the next day in their editorial that the Minister was lying about the Trinidad and Tobago crime statistics.

Minister Padmore in repeating the figures for serious crimes from 1980 to 1984, said they were respectively, 12,227, 11,302, 10,697, 11,386 and 11,717.

"The story stated that for the whole of 1984 the number of serious crime was 6,119 and for 1985 so far the figure is 6,880 ... a deliberate distortion of the figures given by Mr. Perry.

"What in fact Mr. Perry did was to give a comparative figure for the first six months of 1984 and 1985, which is clear for anyone to see ... you understand now why you cannot believe everything you read in the newspaper..."

Mr. Padmore said the figures were given by him on previous occasions which were not properly reported and that instead of concentrating on truths some journals had become instruments of propaganda.

"Could you imagine, ladies and gentlemen, as a responsible officer Mr. Perry would say that so far the 1985 serious crime figure has exceeded that of 1984, which is definitely not the case ... and you get a headline that says the crime figure has gone up more than 100 per cent..."

"I thought I should tell you these things so you can understand what your party and government is up against.... a conspiracy on the part of those who at any cost are determined to see the removal of this government.

"But we will continue to work together, and as long as we do that, we will confound their politics..."

CSO: 3298/929

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

OWTU ON 'WAR FOOTING' TO PROTECT WORKERS' RIGHTS

Port-of-Spain EXPRESS in English 1 Aug 85 p 3

[Text]

THE Oilfield Workers Trade Union has gone on a "war footing" to protect what the union described as "50 years of benefits to workers won through the practice of trade unionism."

In a letter to acting Prime Minister Kamaluddin Mohammed yesterday, acting OWTU president general Errol McLeod announced the decision by the union General Council to go on "war footing." McLeod also requested an urgent meeting between a delegation from the union Central Executive and a government's team which he said should include Labour Minister John Donaldson.

In explaining the union's move, McLeod said: "The last draw of the employer's sword is in the orchestrated attack about the minimum benefits proposed by the Redundancy and Severance Pay Bill and the establishment by conglomerates of paper companies which relieve employers of the responsibility for paying severance in cases where a company is wound up."

McLeod told the acting Prime Minister that if some drastic turn in direction is not taken, the trade union movement would be emasculated and workers will have no choice but to seek other forms of redress "which inevitably will lead to a massive social explosion."

He said: "Our patriotism demands that we explore all legitimate avenues in seeking redress for workers in order to avoid social instability and economic disruption but in recognition of, and our commitment to the struggles for the emancipation of our peoples from a horrendous system designed and practised many years ago by capitalism, our history demands that our primary commitment remains the defence of the working class by any and all means possible are necessary."

Earlier the acting OWTU president said that workers were clearly bearing the burdens of adjustment in the country. "While the owners of capital and those who enjoy bureaucratic privilege continue along their merry way, the belts of workers have been tightened until belly and backbone have become indistinguishable," he said.

McLeod referred to the 1981-84 period saying that the union's research revealed that revenue from the oil industry fell from 65 per cent to 32 per cent of total government revenue. He said on the other hand PAYE rose from 13 per cent to 30 per cent of total government tax revenue for the same period. "Clearly the tax man has decided to make up the shortfall from the oil sector by shaking down workers and picking their pockets," he said.

According to McLeod the trade union movement perceived that its role in the society is "undergoing deliberate and intolerable attack."

CSO: 3298/928

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

NAR RAPS S. AFRICA, URGES GOVERNMENT TO RAISE ITS VOICE

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 29 Jul 85 p 1

[Text] The National Alliance for Reconstruction has called upon the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to lend its voice more persuasively to the campaign against South Africa's transgression against the dignity of life and the rule of law as observed by the civilised international community.

The NAR, like all right-thinking Trinidadians and Tobagonians, a release from NAR said yesterday, continues to be outraged by the flagrant lawlessness of the Government of South Africa as displayed by its inhumane treatment of the black majority.

The views were expressed and later given out as a Press release following a meeting of the Contact Groups of the National Alliance for Reconstruction which was held at the Organisation for National Reconstruction (ONR) Headquarters, 10, Albion Street, Port-of-Spain, under the Chairmanship of Mr. A.N.R. Robinson over the week-end. The statement continued:

"The NAR views the continuing atrocities of the Government of South Africa as a complete disregard for humanity and as the cementing of a new and purposeful nazism that ought not to be condoned in any form.

"South Africa cannot be allowed to thumb its apartheid nose at the rest of the world.

"As nationals we condemn outright the South African Government's flouting of even basic human rights."

For this reason, the NAR called upon the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, and other Governments in the Caribbean and Latin America, to more firmly associate the anti-apartheid sentiment spirit and character of our diverse peoples of every race, class and creed with the present world effort to bring the Government of South Africa to its senses.

CSO: 3298/928

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL OPENING OFFICE IN TOBAGO

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 22 Jul 85 p 11

[Text]

AMNESTY International, with groups operating in Chaguanas, St. Augustine and San Fernando, plans to establish a group in Tobago, an official of the organisation told the "Guardian."

Amnesty has been in operation in this country for the past four years, but received section status from the international body in London only last year, thus officially joining more than 150 countries and territories, with more than 500,000 members, subscribers and supporters involved in this world-wide movement.

GOOD TARGET

While Amnesty International plays a specific role in the international protection of human rights,

it is not to be confused with Human Rights Bureau, said the official.

"To help guard against political bias, to keep objectivity and avoid interfering in Government affairs, we cannot interfere in local cases. Amnesty staff is not responsible for work in their own countries. In Trinidad and Tobago, we can only educate and make interested persons aware of Amnesty's role, which is to seek the release of prisoners of conscience, work for fair and prompt trials for all political prisoners and oppose the death penalty and torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment for all prisoners without reservation," the official added.

According to the official, secondary schools are considered a good target for education on human rights, and so Amnesty International has involved fifth and sixth formers of a number of schools, including Naparima College, Presentation College and St. Joseph's Convent, San Fernando, where an Amnesty officer visits from time to time and lectures on any subject of current interest.

About 39 persons are active in the Trinidad section in addition to subscriber and support members.

CSO: 3298/928

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

POLICE FIGURES SHOW MARKED INCREASE IN CRIME RATE

Port-of-Spain SUNDAY EXPRESS in English 28 Jul 85 p 1

[Article by Davan Maharaj]

[Text]

THE CRIME rate in Trinidad and Tobago will increase by an estimated 100 per cent this year, according to official police figures. The figures, released by Assistant Commissioner of Police (Crime) Ronald Perry, revealed that there have already been 6,880 cases of serious crime this year, as compared with 6,119 for the entire 1984 period.

The statistics only account for serious crimes, including murder, suicide, rape and robbery. Perry disclosed the figures while addressing a panel discussion on *Crime And You*, organised by Presentation College (San Fernando) Past Students Association. Other panelists included psychologist Dr Eric Drue, economist Leslie Scotland, Port of Spain barrister Vernon De Lima with moderator Dr Edmund Chamely.

The Assistant Commissioner of Police, who was a senior State Counsel attached to the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP) Department, also said that of the 6,880 cases of serious crime recorded this year, 1,220 were detected — a success rate of 17.73 per cent. In 1984, 1,180 of the 6,119 cases were detected.

Referring to the crime situation in the 1970-71 period, Perry pointed out that 522 cases of serious crimes were recorded in 1970 with 279 cases detected. The following year, 520 cases were recorded with 285 detected.

Recent figures also reveal that while there had been a drop in the number of persons charged with possession of marijuana, there has been a significant rise in the number of persons on cocaine-related charges. In 1982, 4,465 persons were held for marijuana, 2,308 in 1983 and 2,723 in 1984.

With regard to cocaine, 89 persons were charged for possession in 1982, 150 in 1983 and 376 last year.

But while the number of persons charged with possession of cocaine has risen, there had been a decrease in the amount of the drug seized or destroyed by the police

during 1984. The figures reveal that 2,575 grams of cocaine were seized in 1982, 15 kilos in 1983 and 11 kilos, 844 grams in 1984.

Referring to problems facing the Police Service in the detection and prevention of crime, the Assistant Commissioner said there were serious manpower and vehicle shortages.

He added that the system of bail could also be a major reason for the increase in crime.

"Once they get bail, the accused may commit the same offences to pay their counsel. It goes around in a cycle," he said.

Speaking about possible remedies, Perry said vigilante groups and increased jail terms could assist the police in their battle against crime.

CSO: 3298/929

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

MORE SUPPORT FOR JOINT VENTURES WITH VENEZUELA

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 25 Jul 85 p 4

[Article by Jerry Johnson]

[Text]

THE INDUSTRIAL Development Corporation has said it is willing to assist small and medium-sized businesses desirous of entering into joint venture arrangements with their Venezuelan counterparts.

This was stated by Mr. Syd Brathwaite, President of the Small Business Federation.

Mr. Brathwaite was in a five-member team which visited Venezuela from June 15 to 20 on a trade mission sponsored by the Venezuelan Embassy.

He told the media after his return that the team received offers from joint venture programmes from small businessmen in Venezuela, the most immediate of which was the manufacture of sports shoes. Up to that time, however, he had received little response from SBF members.

"We are happy to report that we have members who are anxiously desirous of establishing joint ventures with Venezuelan businesses, particularly so in the sports shoes manufacturing company which has been proposed for siting at Point Fortin," he said yesterday.

TRADING POSTS

Mr. Brathwaite, on invitation from the IDC, met with representatives of its Economic and Planning Division on July 18 to discuss the SBF's report on the Venezuela mission.

"Our talks were very fruitful and the IDC has indicated its firm intention to assist our small business people who may wish to enter joint ventures with their Venezuelan counterparts," Mr. Brathwaite said.

The Venezuela Export Corporation considered as advantageous to both governments, the establishment of Guiria and Cedros as formal trading posts. To this effect, it was willing to make the cold storage facilities at Guiria available to Trinidadians.

In addition the Venezuelans wanted to enter into a joint venture project to set up a large warehouse in Cedros where bulk-goods purchased from them could be stored and sold to other Caricom countries.

"The Federation endorses that view," Mr. Brathwaite said. "Further, we are of the considered opinion that the establishment of such trading arrangements will not only generate more jobs in both areas, but will also contribute to reducing considerably, if not eliminating, tensions and conflicts in the fishing industry in Cedros and Icacos.

"We have identified members who are anxious to go immediately into a joint venture with Venezuela in the suggested warehouse to be set up at Cedros and related trading that would result."

Venezuela was also interested in importing from this country, teak, fibreglass and any raw material unavailable in Venezuela. The Venezuelans also want a reciprocal \$1 million line of credit for trading.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

BRIEFS

ONR-NAR TALKS--Preparations for the inaugural Congress of the National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR) will be among items to be discussed at the National Committee meeting to be held on Saturday by the Organisation for National Reconstruction (ONR) at ONR's Headquarters, 10 Albion Street, Port-of-Spain. Also to be discussed is the date for the adjourned Special Conference of the ONR which will debate the NAR's platform for democracy and decide on ONR nominees to the NAR executive. According to a release from the ONR, Saturday's meeting, which will be chaired by Mr. Roy Augustus, will also bring ONR constituency delegates up to date with the election exercises now being conducted in various constituencies by officers of the ONR. The National Committee meeting, which begins at 3 p.m., will be preceded by a meeting of the ONR parliamentary arm at 10 a.m. ONR election preparedness meetings are also scheduled to take place on Saturday at 4 p.m. at Success Village R.C. School, Laventille, and at the Fyzabad Community Centre at 4.30 p.m. on Sunday. Then on Monday at San Fernando West; Tuesday at the ONR Headquarters and Wednesday at the Tulls's residence, Richardson Street, Point Fortin. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 25 Jul 85 p 3]

CSO: 3298/929

VENEZUELA

CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ ON ARMS REDUCTION

PY311345 Lima Radioprogramas del Peru in Spanish 2345 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] Former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez has said that it is important that expenditures on armaments be reduced in Latin America, because the continent cannot spend a high percentage of its resources on arms without endangering national defense by taking resources away from development.

[Begin Perez recording] The problem of the arms race is one of the most serious in Latin America. On one hand, the nations that sell arms are unfortunately the developed nations of the West, which have made the military industry the main one in their industrial complexes. They are constantly resorting to all kinds of tricks in order to sell armaments, and we, the developing nations, are the victims of that offensive launched by the great centers of world economic power. On the other hand, the conflicts which unfortunately are still hanging over our countries, including the border conflicts, constantly incite the arms race in Latin America.

I believe that the idea of President Alan Garcia was born here in Lima when the chiefs of state of seven countries met to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Ayacucho. The Declaration of Ayacucho was the cornerstone of a plan to disarm Latin America. Now, President Alan Garcia has taken a step forward, which all the Latin Americans, including Latin American armies, must praise because nobody is thinking of belittling the importance of the armed forces in any of our countries. Nobody is thinking of eradicating the armed forces of Latin America or that the latest technological developments in weapons should be kept from them. But I believe that the military, as good patriots, realize that the national security rests first of all upon the development of the countries, because this development is the foundation of the military forces. They certainly realize that an excessive apportionment of the budget to purchases of weapons tends to weaken the national defense. So the armed forces of our countries should understand that budgets cannot appropriate more than a given percentage of the GDP to acquisition of arms.

[End recording]

We have just heard a statement by the former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez noting the importance of reducing military expenditures in Latin America.

CSO: 3348/873

VENEZUELA

BRIEFS

DEPARTING ISRAELI AMBASSADOR--Ya'aqov Cohen, ambassador to Venezuela said goodbye to Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi at Miraflores Palace today as he prepares to leave the country after 4 years of service as ambassador here. Ambassador Cohen stated that he is pleased with the mission he carried out in Venezuela, with which Israel strengthened agricultural, agroindustrial, scientific, and cultural relations during his term. [Text] [Caracas Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Aug 85 PA]

CSO: 3348/873

END